

1 **Pseudouridine prevalence in Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus transcriptome**
2 **reveals an essential mechanism for viral replication.**

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18

19 **Abstract**

20

21 Pseudouridylation is a prevalent RNA modification shown to occur in tRNAs, rRNAs, snoRNAs
22 and most recently mRNAs and lncRNAs. Emerging evidence suggests that this dynamic RNA
23 modification is implicated in altering gene expression by regulating RNA stability, modulating
24 translation elongation and modifying amino acid substitution rates. However, the role of
25 pseudouridylation in infection is poorly understood. Here we demonstrate that Kaposi's
26 sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV) manipulates the pseudouridylation pathway to
27 enhance replication. We show the pseudouridine synthases (PUS), PUS1 and PUS7 are
28 essential for efficient KSHV lytic replication, supported by the redistribution of both PUS1 and
29 PUS7 to viral replication and transcription complexes. We present a comprehensive analysis
30 of KSHV RNA pseudouridylation, revealing hundreds of modified RNAs at single-nucleotide
31 resolution. Notably, we further demonstrate that pseudouridylation of the KSHV-encoded
32 polyadenylated nuclear RNA (PAN) plays a significant role in the stability of PAN RNA and in
33 the association of the KSHV ORF57 protein. Our findings reveal a novel and essential role of
34 pseudouridine modification in the KSHV replication cycle.

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36

37 **Introduction**

38

39 Post-transcriptional chemical modifications of RNAs are widely abundant across all forms of
40 RNA, affecting up to 25% of all nucleotides present. There are over 170 modifications currently
41 identified, exhibiting a plethora of functions including RNA stabilisation, localisation and the
42 facilitation of intermolecular interactions. Resurging interest in RNA modifications has been
43 driven by advancements in transcriptome-wide RNA modification mapping and the
44 identification of RNA modifications in all RNA species, including mRNA and ncRNAs.
45 Pseudouridine (Ψ) is the most abundant single nucleotide modification found in all functional
46 RNA species ^{1, 2}. Ψ is catalysed by two groups of enzymes, RNA dependent (H/ACA Box
47 snoRNA-guided) such as Dyskerin ^{3, 4, 5}, or RNA independent (direct) known as pseudouridine
48 synthases (PUSs) ^{6, 7}. PUS enzymes function to break the carbon-nitrogen bond found in
49 uridine, then subsequently reform a carbon-carbon bond through the C5 position of the
50 cleaved uridine to the ribose sugar. This function can be site dependent, driven by specific
51 motif binding or secondary RNA structure ⁶. The function of Ψ within RNA species such as
52 tRNA, snoRNA and rRNAs are well characterised, however functions of Ψ within mRNA and
53 ncRNA is largely unknown. Recent transcriptome-wide studies have revealed Ψ can be
54 dynamically modified in response to cellular stress, which may unveil an analogous function
55 to other modifications such as m⁶A. Ψ has confirmed functions in RNA folding, protein binding,
56 protein translation, RNA-RNA interactions and RNA stability ^{8, 9, 10, 11}, however evidence
57 suggests this is a transcript specific, rather than global effect, as often when Ψ is removed,
58 stability of the RNA molecule remains intact. Changes to Ψ -modified mRNA status often occur
59 when under cell stress and confer an enhancement to cell survivability ^{12, 13}. The identification
60 of how Ψ sites function in host or pathogen mRNAs and ncRNAs during infection is currently
61 understudied.

62

63 RNA modifications such as m⁶A are found in a wide range of viruses. The ability of such
64 modifications to regulate gene expression offers unique possibilities for viruses to modulate
65 viral and host genes, but also for the host to regulate a response to infection ¹⁴. For example,
66 m⁶A has been identified on transcripts encoded by a wide range of viruses and studies to
67 investigate m⁶A function in virus life cycles have highlighted distinct roles indicating
68 widespread regulatory control over viral life cycles ¹⁵. Additionally, m⁵C, a modification
69 prevalent across many virus genomes, may play a role in modulating viral gene expression.
70 For instance, m⁵C knockdown in HIV-1 resulted in dysregulation of alternative splicing within
71 viral RNAs ¹⁶. Most recently, Ψ was identified within Epstein-Barr virus (EBV)-encoded non-

72 coding RNA EBER2, proving essential for the stability of the RNA and required for efficient
73 lytic viral replication ¹⁷. However, little is known of Ψ influence on regulatory mechanisms
74 controlling virus replication and a lack of global transcriptome-wide analysis has yet to unveil
75 the prevalence of Ψ within viral genomes.

76

77 Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV) is a large double stranded DNA virus
78 associated with Kaposi's sarcoma and two lymphoproliferative disorders: primary effusion
79 lymphoma and multicentric Castleman's disease. Like all herpesviruses, KSHV has a biphasic
80 life cycle comprising of latent persistence and lytic replication cycles. KSHV establishes
81 latency in B cells and in the tumor setting, where viral gene expression is limited to a small
82 subset of viral genes allowing the viral genome to persist as a non-integrated episome. Upon
83 reactivation through certain stimuli such as cell stress; KSHV enters the lytic replication phase,
84 leading to the orchestrated temporal expression of over 80 viral proteins necessary for the
85 production of infectious virions ¹⁸. Notably, both the latent and lytic replication phases are
86 essential for KSHV-mediated tumorigenicity ¹⁹. Interestingly several recent studies have
87 shown that m⁶A is highly prevalent throughout the KSHV transcriptome and enhances the
88 stability of the essential latent-lytic switch transcriptional protein RTA transcript ^{20, 21}. This
89 highlights the importance of RNA modifications in regulating viral gene expression.

90

91 Herein we use a quantitative proteomic approach to identify changes in PUS1 and PUS7
92 enzymes interactome during KSHV lytic replication. Furthermore, CRISPR-Cas9 knockout
93 analysis of PUS1 and PUS7 confirmed they are essential for KSHV lytic replication.
94 Subsequent RBS-Seq analysis demonstrates that the KSHV transcriptome is functionally
95 pseudouridylated, with over 200 candidate Ψ sites. Notably, specific Ψ sites play an important
96 functional role in the polyadenylated nuclear RNA (PAN), by allowing ORF57 to enhance PAN
97 expression through changes to RNA stability. These results describe a novel mechanism for
98 KSHV to utilise host cell post-transcriptional RNA modification machinery to modify KSHV
99 RNA transcripts enabling efficient viral replication.

100

101 **Results**

102

103 **PUS enzymes are essential for KSHV lytic replication.**

104 To determine whether KSHV manipulated the host cell pseudouridylation machinery we first
105 sought to identify any changes in localisation of the PUS enzymes, specifically PUS1 and
106 PUS7 during KSHV reactivation. TREx BCBL1-Rta cells, a KSHV-latently infected B-
107 lymphocyte cell line containing a Myc-tagged version of the viral RTA under the control of a
108 doxycycline-inducible promoter, remained latent or were reactivated for 24 hours prior to
109 immunostaining with antibodies against KSHV early proteins and PUS1 or PUS7 proteins.
110 PUS1 showed a diffuse staining throughout the nucleus and cytoplasm in latently infected
111 cells. During lytic replication, nuclear PUS1 was redistributed to the replication and
112 transcription compartments (RTCs), a virally-induced intra-nuclear structure where viral
113 transcription, viral DNA replication and capsid assembly occur (Fig. 1a). In contrast, PUS7
114 was redistributed from a diffuse nuclear localisation exclusively into KSHV RTCs (Fig. 1b).

115 To determine whether PUS enzymes were essential for KSHV lytic replication, PUS1 (Fig. 2a)
116 and PUS7 (Fig. 2b) were successfully knocked out in TREx BCBL1-Rta cells utilising the
117 lentiCRISPRv2 CRISPR-cas9 system. To ensure the CRISPR cas9 single cell cloning did not
118 result in large variations in viral episome count, assessment of latent viral DNA was performed
119 (Supplementary Fig. 1), which confirmed single cell clones had no significant changes to
120 KSHV episome load. Reactivation of PUS1ko and PUS7ko showed a reduction in early KSHV
121 ORF57 protein levels, however there was a complete abolition of late ORF65 protein
122 production (Supplementary Fig. 2a-b), suggesting pseudouridylation may be important in the
123 later stages of the KSHV lytic temporal cascade. Furthermore, viral RNA expression of
124 immediate-early gene PAN (Fig. 2c), early gene ORF57 (Fig. 2d) and late gene ORF65 (Fig.
125 2e)¹⁸ was impaired, with PAN and ORF57 showing a significant ~30% reduction and ORF65,
126 a further ~80%, indicating that the effect seen is at a transcriptional level. To confirm that
127 knockout of PUS1 and PUS7 affected infectious virion production, supernatants of reactivated
128 PUS1ko or PUS7ko TREx BCBL1-Rta cells were used to re-infect naïve HEK-293T cells and
129 KSHV ORF57 expression was determined by qPCR (Fig. 2 f-g). Cells reinfected with
130 supernatant from both PUS1ko and PUS7ko showed a significant reduction (>90%) in
131 infectious virion production. Together this suggests that KSHV may utilise PUS enzymes,
132 redistributing both PUS1 and PUS7 into RTCs, to enhance later stages of viral lytic replication.

133

134 **Pus enzyme interactomes are altered during KSHV lytic replication**

135 To determine whether the KSHV-mediated redistribution of PUS1 and PUS7 into RTCs affects
136 PUS enzyme protein-protein interactions, affinity pulldowns were performed using anti-PUS1,
137 anti-PUS7 or control anti-IgG antibodies in latent or reactivated KSHV-infected cells, prior to
138 analysis by TMT-labelled quantitative mass spectrometry. Negative control (anti-IgG
139 pulldown) protein abundance was subtracted from total abundance for each protein followed
140 by a fold change comparison between KSHV latent and lytic samples. Samples with a total
141 protein abundance below 100 for any condition were discarded. The change in interaction
142 landscape of both PUS1 and PUS7 during lytic replication is consistent with the observed
143 relocalisation as shown by immunofluorescence. PUS1 showed an upregulation in
144 interactions with proteins involved in biological processes such as cell division, molecular
145 chaperones and translational factors (Fig. 3a) including important cellular proteins EEF1A1,
146 HSP60 and HSP90, suggesting the redistribution of PUS1 to RTCs facilitates new protein-
147 protein interactions. Notably, STRING analysis suggested that relocalisation of PUS7 resulted
148 in a significant down regulation in interactions with cellular proteins. These include
149 ribonucleoproteins such as hnRNP C1/2, hnRNP A2/B1 and hnRNP U along with nuclear,
150 translational and histone factors, such as H2B, H1.4 and H4. All interactions lost are known
151 PUS7 interaction groups under stable cellular conditions (Fig. 3b) ²². Differentially expressed
152 PUS1 and PUS7 interaction correlation and hierarchical clustering analyses with whole cell
153 TREx BCBL1-Rta SILAC proteomics that allowed assessment of global protein expression
154 levels during lytic reactivation (Fig. 3c) revealed limited correlation ($\rho < 0.2$), confirming
155 PUS1 and PUS7 increased or decreased interactions are not due to decreased overall protein
156 expression by viral host cell shutoff.

157 TMT proteomics was assessed for differential expression commonality between PUS1 and
158 PUS7 interaction partners (Supplementary Fig. 3). However, as expected, the divergent
159 functions of PUS1 and PUS7 resulted in the vast majority of interactors showing no
160 commonality. Notably however, viral proteins K2, ORF6, ORF25, ORF52, ORF59 and vIRF-1
161 were all identified as potential interaction partners for both PUS1 and PUS7 highlighting these
162 interactions may have functional relevance to the pseudouridylation of viral RNA. Together,
163 this data highlights the change in both PUS1 and PUS7 interactomes may have an impact on
164 both cellular and viral RNA pseudouridylation status. Furthermore, we hypothesise the change
165 in PUS1 and PUS7 localisation and resulting change in protein interactors indicates the
166 involvement of PUS enzymes in viral RTC activity (Fig. 3d).

167

168 **Transcriptome-wide mapping of Ψ during KSHV lytic replication.**

169 To elucidate the landscape of Ψ in the KSHV transcriptome, RNA-bisulfite sequencing (RBS-
170 Seq) was performed in latent TREx BCBL1-Rta cells and cells undergoing lytic replication for
171 8 h and 20 h post-induction. RBS-Seq results in a highly reproducible 1-2 nucleotide deletion
172 signature at Ψ sites, exclusively in bisulfite (BS) treated samples. Utilising the custom
173 bioinformatics pipeline developed by Khoddami et al²³, we identified 462 unique Ψ sites within
174 the KSHV transcriptome (Fig. 4a). Of these sites, 33 were detected only during latency,
175 associated with latently expressed transcripts, such as LANA (Fig. 4b). At 8 hours post
176 reactivation, 160 sites were identified during the early stages of the lytic cascade. As the lytic
177 temporal cascade progressed, 115 sites unique at 20 hours post reactivation were identified,
178 not surprisingly 88 sites were conserved between 8 and 20 hours post reactivation, typically
179 within lytic genes predominantly expressed throughout lytic replication (Fig. 4c). Furthermore,
180 mapping the Ψ sites to genome features previously identified in KSHV¹⁸, showed that Ψ is
181 found predominantly within the CDS of KSHV genes with the remaining Ψ sites identified in
182 the UTR and repeating regions (Fig. 4d). The proportional pseudouridylation of these gene
183 features was consistent through 0, 8 and 20 hours post reactivation. By performing STREME
184 motif analysis of 15 nt sequences flanking each Ψ site, we observed varying consensus motifs
185 between genome features (Fig. 4e). Within the CDS, a motif of AAG was most common, which
186 corresponds to the HRU PUS1 motif in the reverse orientation. Interestingly, a
187 CCCMCAYCCC was the most prominently conserved motif within the intergenic region which
188 has some similarity to human TRUB1 GUUCNANNC motif. Analysis of all Ψ site motifs
189 showed ~49% contained either AGGAR or AAAA motifs. Furthermore, assessing the PUS7
190 motif UGUAR showed 6 sites within the CDS that are strong candidates for Ψ modification
191 (Fig. 4f). Together this data shows that the KSHV transcriptome is heavily pseudouridylated
192 throughout lytic reactivation.

193

194 **Validation of specific Ψ sites in the KSHV transcriptome.**

195 Following the identification of Ψ sites by RBS-Seq, validation of a subset of targets was
196 performed to confirm the robustness of the dataset. Initially, RNA immunoprecipitations (RIP)
197 were performed in reactivated TREx BCBL1-Rta cells using a Ψ -specific antibody to
198 precipitate KSHV-encoded RNAs with RBS-Seq mapped Ψ sites (Fig. 5a). This included the
199 PAN and ORF4 RNAs, 28S as a control for a highly pseudouridylated RNA transcript and MBP
200 as negative control previously shown to contain no Ψ sites. Results showed that both PAN
201 and ORF4 RNAs were significantly enriched over MBP, confirming they contain Ψ sites.

202 PAN RNA undertakes multiple essential functions in KSHV lytic replication, specifically acting
203 as a protein scaffold for early expressed viral proteins resulting in enhanced late gene

204 expression^{24, 25}. Therefore, to determine the functional significance of Ψ site modification of
205 the PAN RNA, we first mapped the three Ψ sites identified by RBS-Seq onto a previously
206 identified SHAPE structure of PAN RNA (Fig. 5b)²⁶. These sites, particularly site 334, were
207 noted to be in close proximity to known binding sites of a multitude of viral proteins, including
208 the ORF57 protein. This close proximity indicated that the Ψ site may be involved in the
209 stabilisation of the PAN molecule allowing or disrupting binding of these important viral
210 interactors²⁷. To investigate this possibility we first confirmed that the PAN site 334 was the
211 exact position of the Ψ site, using the recently developed technique, CMC ligation assisted
212 PCR (CLAP) (Fig. 5c)^{28, 29}. CLAP relies on the addition of a CMC adjunct to the Ψ residue.
213 This bulky CMC modified Ψ site acts as a reverse transcriptase terminator thus resulting in
214 shortened DNA fragments reverse transcribed from Ψ modified RNA. Through the addition of
215 both “splint” and “adaptor” short DNA sequences, the CMC fragment can be amplified using
216 the same primers as the non-CMC treated full length fragment. This allows direct semi-
217 quantitative amplification of each fragment and thus relative levels of pseudouridylation can
218 be determined. CLAP was performed on RNA isolated from reactivated TREx BCBL1-Rta cells
219 and the amplification of a shortened transcript confirms that both ORF4 site 1640 and PAN
220 site 334 undergoes Ψ modification (Fig. 5d). Together, RIP and CLAP analysis confirm that
221 the KSHV PAN transcriptome is Ψ modified during lytic replication.

222 **PUS1/PUS7 knockouts affect PAN stability and poly(A) tail length.**

223 The ability of Ψ to influence the stability of mRNA has been previously studied³⁰. Thus, we
224 sought to investigate the effect of PUS1 and PUS7 knockouts on PAN stability. Through
225 utilisation of an Actinomycin D stability assay, we observed in PUS1ko TREx-BCBL1-Rta cells
226 that PAN had a substantial reduction in RNA stability at both 4 and 8 hours post drug treatment
227 and PUS7ko had a reduction primarily at 4 hours post treatment with both knockouts showing
228 decreased half-life of the RNA using an exponential decay model (Fig. 6a). At present the
229 mechanism by which Ψ affects RNA stability is not fully elucidated. Considering the
230 importance of the poly(A) tail on PAN stability, we wished to assess if the loss of stability
231 observed in PUS1 and PUS7ko cells was due to a disruption in the adenylation or
232 deadenylation of the poly(A) tail. G/I extension followed by cDNA synthesis and PCR revealed
233 that while levels of hyperadenylated PAN remained consistent between scrambled control,
234 PUS1ko and PUS7ko (Fig. 6b), there was a significant increase in levels of shorter poly(A)
235 transcripts in both Pus knockout cell lines (Fig. 6c), whereas no significant changes were
236 observed to the poly(A) status of the cellular control gene GAPDH (Fig. 6d). The reduction in
237 poly(A) length within PAN RNA species indicates a possible mechanism for the observed
238 reduction in PAN stability and downstream reduction in expression levels with PUS1 and
239 PUS7 knockout TREx-BCBL1-Rta cells.

240 **PAN mutant 334 shows important function for PAN stability and expression.**

241 Knockout of PUS1 or PUS7 has been shown to result in global reduction of pseudouridylation
242 at PUS1 or PUS7 sites respectively, therefore the effects on PAN stability observed in PUS1
243 and PUS7 knockouts cannot be directly attributed Ψ within PAN. Thus, to isolate Ψ function
244 in PAN RNA from other KSHV Ψ modifications and their effects, we performed a CRISPR
245 cas9 knockout of PUS1 and PUS7 in HEK-293T cells (Fig. 7a). ORF57, an important viral
246 protein involved in a number of essential viral processes has previously been shown to
247 significantly enhance PAN expression ^{27, 31}. To explore the functional implications of Ψ
248 modification on PAN and its relation to ORF57, we next determined if the ORF57 protein was
249 able to enhance PAN RNA levels in PUS1 or PUS7 knockout cells (Fig. 7b). Interestingly, both
250 PUS1ko and PUS7ko showed a significant reduction in the enhancing effect of ORF57 on
251 PAN expression. Furthermore, due to the close proximity of the Ψ site to local ORF57 binding
252 sites, we wanted to assess if binding of the ORF57 protein to PAN RNA could be affected
253 upon loss of PUS enzyme activity. Initially, we co-transfected PAN with ORF57-eGFP in our
254 control HEK-293T or PUSko HEK-293T cell lines and carried out a RNA immunoprecipitation
255 using GFP-TRAP beads pulldown and bound PAN RNA levels were assessed (Fig. 7c-d).
256 PUS1ko and PUS7ko resulted in reduced binding of PAN to ORF57-eGFP, while pre-BTG1
257 positive control levels remained constant suggesting the presence of Ψ on PAN is important
258 for ORF57 binding allowing enhanced expression.

259 To further examine the specific Ψ sites within PAN and how they contribute to PAN function,
260 residues identified as Ψ sites with RBS-Seq, namely 334, 582 and 763 were mutated
261 individually or as a triple mutant (Δ 3) containing all three mutations. A T-A substitution was
262 chosen to maintain GC content and to minimise any effects to overall RNA structure. To
263 assess the effect of mutating individual Ψ sites within the PAN RNA, co-transfection assays
264 were performed for each individual mutant in the presence of a KSHV ORF57 expression
265 construct (Fig. 7e) ³². Assessing the expression levels of each PAN mutant in the presence of
266 ORF57, results determined that mutant 334 and the Δ 3 mutant showed significantly reduced
267 PAN expression levels in comparison with WT PAN RNA. These levels were comparable with
268 the negative ORF57 RNA binding mutant, RGG ³³, which showed no enhancement of PAN
269 RNA levels. These results implied that the 334 and Δ 3 mutants may affect the stability of PAN
270 RNA. Therefore to assess the stability of the PAN Ψ mutants an Actinomycin D stability assay
271 was performed in the absence or presence of the ORF57 protein (Fig. 7f-g). As expected, the
272 stability enhancing effect of ORF57 for both mutant 334 and Δ 3 was ablated. While non-
273 significant, both mutant 582 and 763 stability appeared to be similar to wildtype PAN RNA
274 levels in the presence of ORF57 protein, highlighting that the Ψ site at nucleotide 334 is key
275 in enhancing PAN RNA stability in the presence of the ORF57 protein. Additionally, the stability

276 of the PAN RNA mutants in the absence of ORF57 was unaffected, indicating that the mutation
277 alone is insufficient to cause decreased stability thus showing an ORF57 specific stabilising
278 phenotype (Supplementary Fig. 4). Together these data show Ψ is important for ORF57-
279 mediated functional enhancement of PAN expression and the stability of PAN provided by
280 ORF57 in the presence of specific Ψ sites is likely important for this enhancement.

281

282 **Discussion**

283 This study is the first to investigate the transcriptome-wide role of Ψ within a DNA virus. KSHV
284 was used as a model pathogen since it is known to manipulate and utilise a large number of
285 host cell proteins and pathways during its replication cycle, including other RNA modifications
286 ¹⁸. Redistribution of PUS7 to KSHV RTCs during lytic reactivation reinforced the hypothesis
287 that KSHV may utilise pseudouridylation to positively modify viral RNA transcripts. These
288 virus-induced intranuclear structures, enable multiple processes required for KSHV lytic
289 replication to occur, including viral transcription, viral DNA synthesis and capsid assembly. By
290 undertaking a quantitative proteomic approach to identify PUS enzyme interaction partners,
291 we showed a comprehensive interactome of cellular proteins that drastically change under
292 viral stress, thus opening further avenues of research for their important role in both cellular
293 function but also their involvement in viral protein-protein or protein-RNA interactions. Notably,
294 PUS7 redistribution to KSHV RTCs leads to a dramatic change in the PUS7 interactome, with
295 a large number of host protein-protein interactions found during KSHV latency no longer
296 occurring upon reactivation into the lytic replication phase. Interestingly, PUS7 predominantly
297 loses interactions with histones H2B H1.4 and H4 that have previously been confirmed as
298 associated proteins through ChIP-MS analysis ³⁴. ChIP-qPCR for PUS7 probing for enhancers
299 and promoters showed a significant enrichment highlighting PUS7 role in co-transcriptional
300 loading. Furthermore, interactions with heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoproteins hnRNP
301 C1/C2, hnRNP A2/B1 and hnRNP U are also lost. hnRNP C has previously been shown to
302 contain binding site that overlaps intronic Ψ ⁷. The loss of such interactions during KSHV lytic
303 replication may influence pre-mRNA splicing, mRNA-protein interactions or modifying pre-
304 mRNA structure and stability.

305 Surprisingly, only a small number of interactions increase, including a number of viral proteins
306 such as ORF59 and the cellular stress protein HSP90. This sequestering into KSHV RTCs
307 may serve the virus twofold; the utilisation of PUS7 pseudouridylation activity for KSHV lytic
308 transcripts such as PAN and ORF4 occurring co-transcriptionally, and/or the reduction of Ψ
309 on cellular genes. While PUS1 maintains a generalized localisation around both the nucleus
310 and cytoplasm, there is still a distinct change in protein-protein interactions upon viral
311 reactivation. These interactions are predominantly increased in cell stress proteins and

312 translational factors along with viral proteins. In particular, PUS1 showed an increased
313 interaction with HSP90 during KSHV lytic replication, which has previously been shown to
314 increase PUS7 stability and expression ³⁵. Additionally, PUS1 interaction with EEF1A1 and
315 HSP60 are increased, both of which mRNAs contain experimentally verified Ψ sites that are
316 modified under stress conditions ^{36, 37}, suggesting the interaction of PUS1 with these proteins
317 may be stress induced. One of PUS1 primary pseudouridylation targets is tRNA ³⁸, which may
318 have a significant impact in protein translation, suggesting this function may be modified during
319 KSHV lytic reactivation. It must also be noted that an important aspect of KSHV lytic
320 reactivation is host-cell shutoff, involving KSHV SOX-mediated degradation of cellular RNAs
321 ^{39, 40}, and as Ψ has been shown to directly affect the stability of RNA molecules, it is possible
322 that viral changes to the PUS1 and PUS7 interactomes could affect overall stability of a
323 number of cellular genes, contributing to the overall host cell shutoff of genes not essential for
324 the virus. PUS1s localisation and interaction with numerous KSHV proteins suggests PUS1
325 may carry out pseudouridylation of viral transcripts in both the cytoplasm and nucleus.
326 Conversely, PUS7 interaction profile suggests that localisation to viral RTCs reduces
327 interaction with cellular proteins and indicates PUS7 may be involved in co-transcriptionally
328 pseudouridylating viral RNA transcripts (Fig. 2d).

329 Through the use of CRISPR cas9 knockouts, we show that both PUS1 and PUS7 are essential
330 for KSHV lytic replication. The ~30% reduction in expression of the immediate-early PAN RNA
331 and early ORF57 RNA and protein, compared to the significant 80% reduction of late ORF65
332 protein in both PUS1ko and PUS7ko cells indicates that Ψ is not directly involved in the
333 latent/lytic switch but more likely affecting one or more viral processes that occur downstream
334 in the lytic temporal cascade. To further understand the effect of the PUS enzymes on viral
335 replication, we sought to determine if the reduction in Ψ affect the virus was purely changes
336 to the cellular transcriptome or if the virus transcriptome itself was Ψ modified. It has been
337 previously shown through transcriptome wide analysis that the human pathogens
338 *Trypanosoma Brucei*, Influenza A and HIV have Ψ modified transcripts ^{30, 41, 42} however there
339 is limited research on the functional role of Ψ in the context of viral infection. Our RBS-Seq
340 experiment revealed that the KSHV transcriptome is heavily Ψ modified. By performing RBS-
341 Seq at 8 and 20 hours post reactivation, we wished to determine if any modifications were
342 changed as the lytic temporal cascade progresses and as cell stress intensifies. However,
343 modifications that were present at 8 hours post reactivation were mostly consistent at 20 hours
344 post reactivation, providing evidence that the Ψ modification may be dynamically induced
345 throughout reactivation ⁴³. Mapping the Ψ sites to genome features revealed the distribution
346 of Ψ to be preferentially found on the CDS of the KSHV transcriptome. While the majority of
347 traditional Ψ found in human or yeast cellular transcripts are also within the CDS, there are

348 proportionally more sites found in UTR regions, particularly 3' UTR than within the KSHV
349 transcriptome ²³. Examining Ψ sites in alternative topological features showed a significant
350 number of sites in alternative start site regions which may have implications on downstream
351 protein expression (Supplementary Fig. 5). Additionally there is a high proportion of Ψ
352 deletions identified in the repeating regions of KSHV. This is most likely an artifact of the
353 deletion mechanism of the DNA reverse transcriptase which shows increased deletions at
354 repeating regions out with Ψ status. Motif analysis of nucleotides surrounding Ψ sites revealed
355 differential motifs between the CDS, intergenic regions and all sites analysed together. Recent
356 research has shown that motif binding alone is not sufficient to predict Ψ sites, however these
357 motifs likely represent different proportional pseudouridylation by all PUS enzymes. When
358 analysing all Ψ sites, the AGGA and AAAA motifs show it is likely that PUS1s HRU binding
359 motif would contribute a significant proportion to the motif analysis and thus, likely to
360 pseudouridylate the most Ψ sites. Comparatively, PUS7s specific binding motif was found in
361 just 7 Ψ sites. While out with the scope of this study, the RBS-Seq dataset can be further
362 examined to identify Ψ within cellular genes and any changes that may occur during KSHV
363 lytic reactivation that could influence the overall landscape of anti-viral or pro-viral cellular
364 genes.

365 Validation of the non-coding viral PAN and ORF4 RNAs was performed via an RNA-
366 immunoprecipitation using a Ψ -specific antibody to immunoprecipitate Ψ modified RNA. PAN
367 and ORF4 were selected as two high confidence hits from RBS-Seq and also for their
368 importance for viral replication ⁴⁴. Furthermore, PAN was selected for further study due to its
369 huge abundance during viral reactivation, accounting for >90% of viral reads within a cell, and
370 thus we surmised that PAN may lead to significant changes in virus replication in the absence
371 of Ψ . There has been growing evidence that Ψ can directly affect levels of protein translation,
372 ^{11, 45} thus we wished to examine further the lesser known effects of Ψ on a viral non-coding
373 RNA. Within PAN, three Ψ sites were detected at nucleotides 334, 582 and 763. Due to the
374 proximal nature of multiple viral protein binding sites surrounding site 334, we hypothesised
375 site 334 may be important in influencing binding of viral proteins essential for viral replication
376 ²⁶.

377 When assessing the expression levels of PAN in our PUS1ko and PUS7ko TReX BCBL1-RTA
378 cells during lytic reactivation, we noted a significant reduction in PAN expression within both
379 PUS1ko and PUS7ko cells. The reduction of this immediate-early gene and PANs functional
380 significance on late gene expression highlights Ψ drastic effect on KSHV replication. While
381 the roles of varying poly(A) tail lengths in mRNA is currently broad and often undefined ⁴⁶, we
382 identified a possible source of reduced PAN expression through an increase in the pool of
383 short poly(A) tails found within both PUS1 and PUS7ko cells. Coupled with the reduced

384 stability of PAN during reactivation in PUS1 and PUS7ko cells, and a larger reduction in
385 stability in PUS1ko corresponding with a larger change in poly(A) tail length, this suggests
386 one possible mechanism of how Ψ may directly affect PANs function.

387 During reactivation, there are thousands of Ψ modifications occurring in both cellular and viral
388 transcripts and thus focusing on single transcript modifications with full PUS knockouts is a
389 significant challenge. To isolate PAN from the multitude of associating viral factors during lytic
390 reactivation, we generated PUS1 and PUS7ko HEK-293T cells with which we could assess
391 PAN function through transfection. Previous work has shown that PAN has a number of
392 interaction motifs enabling ORF57 protein recruitment, including an Mta responsive element
393 (MRE) and expression and nuclear retention element (ENE). These regions are important for
394 achieving high levels of expression, up to 20 fold increase and also nuclear retention³¹. Here
395 we show that the expression enhancing effect of ORF57 is impaired in both PUS1 and PUS7ko
396 HEK-293T cells, consistent with the reduction seen in TREx BCBL1-RTA PUSko cells. Ψ has
397 been shown to reduce RNA-protein binding affinity when the modification is located directly
398 within the binding motif⁸ however in this case, the 334 modification is 4-6 bases from the sites
399 and sites 582 and 763 were 7 and 13 bases away respectively. Interestingly, PUS1ko and
400 PUS7ko both reduce the overall binding of ORF57 to PAN, indicating that the modification is
401 likely affecting the binding sites through changes to secondary structure rather than immediate
402 changes to binding dynamics within the motif. Additionally, these sites are not located in the
403 MRE or ENE elements that have been shown to improve PAN stability. However, this impaired
404 binding is likely a contributor to the reduction in PAN expression highlighting the importance
405 of all multiple binding regions on PAN. Further work may identify Ψ importance in the impaired
406 binding of other important viral factors such as ORF59 or cellular factors such as PABPC1
407 and Aly/REF^{31, 47} and whether this is impaired binding directly affects the polyadenylation of
408 PAN.

409 Single Ψ sites can affect the dynamics of an RNA molecule. By mutating each Ψ PAN site
410 individually, and generating a Δ 3 Ψ PAN mutant, we showed that both Δ PAN334 and Δ 3
411 mutants followed a phenotype of reduced PAN expression enhancement by ORF57.
412 Interestingly, when examined further, ORF57 functioning as a stabiliser of PAN is also reduced
413 in both Δ PAN334 and Δ 3 mutants. This shows that PAN 334 is a Ψ site potentially important
414 for allowing the interaction between PAN and ORF57, stabilising PAN and allowing enhanced
415 PAN expression. Conversely, the landscape of Ψ is broad as to affect many cellular and viral
416 genes³⁶, of which there can be multiple interactions affect PAN molecular dynamics. Thus,
417 while clearly essential for PAN function, Ψ knockdown can affect numerous RNAs across the
418 host and virus transcriptome making examining direct function challenging. Further work
419 making use of RBS-Seq with PUS knockouts in both latent and lytic KSHV reactivation,

420 examining both the viral and host transcriptome, would allow a more broad overview of how
421 the landscape of Ψ changes, and may allow more elucidation of Ψ function with KSHV
422 replication.

423 **Methods**

424 **Reagents tables.** Plasmids (Supplementary Table 1, antibodies (Supplementary Table 2) and
425 primers (Supplementary Table 3).

426

427 **Cells lines and reagents.** TREx BCBL1-Rta cells are a genetically engineered BCBL-1
428 primary effusion lymphoma (PEL) B cell line that expresses Myc-tagged RTA under a
429 doxycycline inducible promoter, a gift from Professor Jae U. Jung (University of Southern
430 California, USA). TREx BCBL1-Rta cells were cultured in RPMI1640 growth media with
431 glutamine (Gibco[®]) supplemented with 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum (FBS, Gibco[®]), 1% (v/v)
432 penicillin-streptomycin (P/S, Gibco[®]) and 100 μ g/ul hygromycin B (Thermo Scientific). For
433 virus reactivation, RTA expression was induced through the addition of 2 μ g/mL doxycycline
434 hydralate (Sigma-Aldrich). HEK-293Ts were purchased from ATCC (American Type Culture
435 Collection) and cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium with glutamine (DMEM,
436 Lonza) supplemented with 10% (v/v) FBS and 1% P/S. The antibodies used throughout this
437 study include anti-ORF57 (Santa Cruz, sc-135746 1:1,000), anti-ORF65, anti-GAPDH
438 (Abcam, ab8245 1:5,000), anti-PUS1 (SIGMA-ALDRICH, SAB1411457 1:1000) and anti-
439 PUS7 (InvitrogenTM, PA5-54983, 1:1000).

440

441 **CRISPR stable cell lines.** HEK-293T cells were transfected with the 3 plasmid lentiCRISPR
442 v2 system. In 12-well plates, 4 μ l of lipofectamine 2000 (InvitrogenTM) was combined with 1 μ g
443 lenti CRISPR V2 plasmid (a gift from Feng Zhang, Addgene plasmid #52961) expressing the
444 guide RNA (gRNA) targeting the protein of interest, 0.65 μ g of pVSV.G and 0.65 μ g psPAX2.
445 pVSV.G and psPAX2 were gifts from Dr. Edwin Chen at the University of Leeds. Two days
446 post transfection the viral supernatant was harvested, filtered (0.45 μ m pore, Merck Millipore)
447 and used to transduce TREx BCBL1-Rta cells in the presence of 8 μ g/mL of polybrene (Merck
448 Millipore). Virus supernatant was removed 6 hours post transduction and cells were
449 maintained for 48 hours before puromycin (Sigma-Aldrich) selection. Stable mixed population
450 cell lines were maintained until confluent before single cell selection. Single cell populations
451 were generated through serial dilution of ~100 cells in 96 well plates. Positive wells were
452 cultured for 3-5 weeks and maintained with fresh media before transferal into 6 well plates.

453 Upon confluence, clones were tested via western blot for expression of target protein of
454 interest.

455

456 **Viral reinfection assay.** TREx BCBL1-Rta, TREx BCBL-Rta PUS1ko or PUS7ko cells were
457 reactivated and harvested after 72 h as previously described ⁴⁸. Cellular supernatant was
458 filtered with a 0.45 µm pore filter (Merck Millipore) and subsequently used to inoculate HEK-
459 293T cells at a 1:1 ratio with DMEM tissue culture media. Active KSHV transcription was
460 quantified at 48 h post-infection by RT qRT-PCR. Total RNA was extracted from cell lysates
461 using RNeasy Mini Kit as described by the manufacturer. cDNA synthesis was carried out with
462 1 µg total RNA using LunaScript™ RT SuperMix Kit according to the manufacturers protocol.
463 Subsequent qPCR reactions were carried out using ORF57 and GAPDH specific primers as
464 described in the qRT-PCR method.

465

466 **Viral episome count assay.** TREx BCBL1-Rta, TREx BCBL-Rta PUS1ko or PUS7ko cells
467 were serially passaged and cells harvested after 14 days. Total DNA was extracted from cell
468 pellets using Monarch Genomic DNA Purification Kits (New England Biolabs) and viral
469 episome copies quantified by qPCR of the viral gene ORF57 as described in the qRT-PCR
470 method.

471

472 **Two-step reverse transcription quantitative PCR (qRT-PCR).** Total RNA from cell pellets
473 was extracted using a Monarch Total RNA Miniprep kit (New England Biolabs) according to
474 the manufacturer's instructions. Reverse transcription was performed on 500 ng of total RNA
475 using a LunaScript™ RT SuperMix Kit (New England Biolabs) as according to the
476 manufacturer's instructions. Quantitative PCR (qPCR) reactions included 10 µl 1 X GoTaq®
477 qPCR Master Mix (Promega), 0.5 µM of each primer and 5 µl template cDNA. Cycling was
478 performed in a RotorGene Q 2plex machine (Qiagen). The cycling programme used was; a
479 10 minute initial preincubation at 95 °C, followed by 40 cycles of 95 °C for 15 s, 60 °C for 30
480 s and 72 °C for 20 s. A melt curve step was performed post qPCR to confirm single product
481 amplification. Gene expression analysis was performed with normalisation to the
482 housekeeping gene GAPDH (ΔC_T) and reference sample ($\Delta\Delta C_T$).

483

484 **RNA stability assay.** TREx BCBL1-Rta cells were reactivated with doxycycline hydiate. At 24
485 hours post reactivation, cells were treated with 2.5 µg/ml of actinomycin D (Thermo Scientific)

486 and samples were collected at 0, 4 and 8 hours post treatment. HEK-293T cells were
487 transfected with 500 ng pCMV-PAN or pCMV-PAN mutant and 500 ng pCMV-ORF57-eGFP.
488 At 24 hours post transfection, cells were treated with 10 µg/ml of actinomycin D. Total RNA
489 was extracted using Monarch® Total RNA Miniprep Kits (New England Biolabs) according to
490 the manufacturer instructions. cDNA synthesis was carried out using LunaScript™ RT
491 SuperMix Kit. qRT-PCR was performed as described above. Normalisation was carried out
492 using GAPDH and data was further normalised to 0 hour sample. The non-linear regression
493 analysis was applied to a one phase decay model as allowed by decay parameters in TReX-
494 BCBL1-Rta stability assays. One phase decay model used in Graphpad Prism 9 (GraphPad
495 Software, www.graphpad.com) as $Y = (Y_0 - \text{Plateau}) * \exp(-K * X) + \text{Plateau}$, where Y_0 is
496 100%, K is the rate constant with X as minutes. τ is time constant as the reciprocal of K .

497

498 **Poly(A) Tail-Length Assay.**

499 Scrambled or PUS1/PUS7ko TReX BCBL1-Rta cells were reactivated with doxycycline
500 hydralate and harvested at 24 hours post reactivation. Total RNA was extracted using Monarch®
501 Total RNA Miniprep Kits (New England Biolabs) as described by the manufacturer. Total RNA
502 was G/I tailed, reverse transcribed and underwent PCR using a poly(A) Tail Length Assay Kit
503 (Invitrogen™) according to manufacturer's instructions. PCR was performed using forward
504 and reverse gene specific primers, or gene specific primers and poly(A) universal reverse
505 primer for both PAN and GAPDH. Samples were then loaded onto an 8% polyacrylamide gel
506 alongside a 50 bp ladder (New England Biolabs) and resolved at 100 V for 45 minutes in TBE
507 buffer. The gel was stained for 20 minutes with 1:10,000 SYTO™ 60 stain (Invitrogen™)
508 before subsequent visualisation on a Odyssey® CLx (LI-COR). Densitometry analysis was
509 performed using Image Studio™ (LI-COR).

510

511 **RNA immunoprecipitations.**

512 For Ψ RIPs, TReX BCBL1-Rta cells were reactivated with doxycycline hydralate and harvested
513 24 hours post reactivation. Cells were lysed and RNA extracted with TRIzol LS (Invitrogen™)
514 as per manufacturer's instructions. 10 µg total RNA was incubated overnight at 4 °C with
515 Dynabeads™ Protein G magnetic beads pre-bound with anti- Ψ (Diagenode) according to
516 manufacturer's instructions. Following pulldown, RNA samples were incubated with
517 Proteinase K buffer (10 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 0.5 mM EDTA, 10% SDS, proteinase
518 K) for 30 minutes at 55 °C before further RNA extraction with TRIzol LS (Invitrogen™).
519 cDNA was synthesised using LunaScript™ RT SuperMix Kit (New England Biolabs)

520 before analysis via qRT-PCR. Samples were analysed using fold enrichment over GAPDH
521 before further normalisation with scrambled samples.

522 For GFP RIPs, scrambled or PUS1/PUS7ko HEK-293Ts were transfected with 2 µg PAN and
523 2 µg ORF57-eGFP plasmids using Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) according
524 to manufacturer's instructions. Cells were lysed before incubation with GFP-Trap Agarose
525 beads (Chromotek) overnight at 4 °C using manufacturer's instructions. Samples were
526 incubated with Proteinase K buffer for 30 minutes at 55 °C before RNA extraction with TRIzol
527 LS (Invitrogen™) as per manufacturer's instructions. cDNA was synthesised using
528 LunaScript™ RT SuperMix Kit (New England Biolabs) before analysis via qRT-PCR. Samples
529 were analysed using fold enrichment over GAPDH before further normalisation with scrambled
530 samples.

531

532 **Quantitative proteomics.** Protein A beads pre bound with anti-PUS1, anti-PUS7 or IgG
533 control antibodies were incubated with latent or reactivated TREx BCBL1-Rta cell lysate.
534 Immunoprecipitated samples were sent to the University of Bristol Proteomics facility for TMT
535 LC-MS/MS. A detailed protocol was followed as previously described ^{20, 49}. Briefly, samples
536 were trypsin digested and labelled with amine-specific isobaric tags resulting in differentially
537 labelled peptides of the same mass. Labelled samples were pooled and fractionated using
538 Strong Anion eXchange chromatography before analysis by synchronous precursor selection
539 MS3 on an Orbitrap Fusion Tribrid mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher) controlled by Xcalibur
540 2.1 software (Thermo Scientific) and operated in data-dependent acquisition mode. Raw data
541 files were processed and quantified using Proteome Discoverer software v1.4 (Thermo
542 Scientific) compared against UniProt Human database (downloaded October 2019) plus
543 KSHV protein sequences using SEQUEST algorithm.

544 Data was first analysed by the removal of background abundance values from PUS1 and
545 PUS7 abundance values. Background values were generated from the TREx BCBL1-Rta IgG
546 control pulldown. A cutoff abundance value of 100 was selected as a minimum detection level
547 for further analysis. The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the
548 ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRIDE partner repository with the dataset identifier
549 PXD037379 ^{50, 51}.

550

551 **Immunoblotting.** Protein samples were run on 12% polyacrylamide gels and transferred to
552 nitrocellulose membranes (GE Healthcare) via semi-dry transfer in a Bio-Rad Trans-blot Turbo
553 transfer machine. Membranes were blocked with TBS + 0.1% (v/v) Tween 20 (TBS-T) and 5%

554 (w/v) dried milk powder (Marvel) for 1 hour. The membrane was then incubated with relevant
555 primary, followed by secondary antibodies for 1 hour incubations diluted in 5% (w/v) milk TBS-
556 T. Membranes incubated with secondary fluorescent antibodies were dried and imaged on
557 an Odyssey® CLx (LI-COR).

558

559 **Immunofluorescence.** Sterilised glass coverslips were treated with Poly-L-Lysine for 15 mins
560 before seeding TReX BCBL1-Rta cells. After 8 hours post seeding, TReX cells were
561 reactivated with doxycycline hyclate. Cells were fixed at 24, 48 or 72 hours post reactivation
562 with 4% (v/v) paraformaldehyde in PBS for 15 minutes. Subsequently, wells were washed
563 twice in PBS and permeabilised in PBS containing 1% Triton X-100 for 10 minutes. Coverslips
564 were blocked with 5% (v/v) BSA in PBS for 1 hour before subsequent incubation with primary
565 and secondary antibodies, both for 1 hour at 37 °C. Glass coverslips were then mounted onto
566 microscope slides using Vectashield® Hardset with DAPI. Slides were visualised on a Zeiss
567 LSM 880 laser scanning confocal microscope and images analysed using Zen® 2011 (Zeiss).

568

569 **CMC-ligation assisted PCR (CLAP).** 40 µg of total RNA harvested from TReX BCBL1-RTa
570 cells was CLAP treated as according to Zhang et al 2022 ²⁹. In brief, 40 µg of total RNA was
571 divided and 20 µg treated with CMC, 20 µg without, in TEU buffer at 30 °C for 16 hours. The
572 reaction was subsequently stopped with KOAc KCL (Stop buffer) followed by 2x 75% ethanol
573 wash steps with 2 hour -80 °C incubations. Following washes, CMC adjuncts underwent
574 reversal through the addition of 50 mM Na2CO3 supplemented with 2 mM EDTA (Reversal
575 Buffer) and incubated for 6 hours at 37 °C before 1 further 75% ethanol wash 2 hours at -80
576 °C. Samples then underwent phosphate group addition using T4 PNK at 37 °C for 30 min.
577 Subsequently, samples were ligated with an RNA-5 oligo using T4 ligase 1 incubated at 16 °C
578 for 16 hours. Samples were then reverse transcribed using a target specific RT primer and
579 using AMV transcriptase at 42 °C for 1 hour before a denaturation step at 85 °C for 5 min.
580 Samples were further treated with RNase H at 37 °C for 20 min before denaturation at 85 °C
581 for 5 min. Adaptor and splint oligo's were combined in a 1:1 ratio to form a oligo/splint mixture
582 that was added to above RT mixture and incubated at 75 °C for 3 min, to which DNA ligase
583 buffer and enzyme plus DMSO were added and incubated at 16 °C for 16 hours, followed by
584 inactivation at 65 °C for 10 min. Samples were subsequently analysed via KAPA2G PCR using
585 the following conditions; Initial denaturation 95 °C for 3 min followed by 10 cycles of 95 °C for
586 15 s, 65 °C for 15 s (descending 1 °C per cycle) and 72 °C for 5 s, then 10 cycles of 95 °C for
587 15 s, 55 °C for 15 s and 72 °C for 5 s, with a final extension of 72 °C for 1 min. PCR products
588 were ran on 10% DNA polyacrylamide gels.

589

590 **RBS-Seq RNA Isolation and Preparation.** TREx BCBL1-Rta cells were seeded at 5x10⁵ cells
591 per ml in T25 flasks. Cells were reactivated with 2 µg / ml doxycycline hydralazine and harvested
592 at 8 hours and 20 hours post reactivation. Total RNA was isolated using TRIzol Reagent
593 (Invitrogen) and samples were depleted of rRNA using the NEBNext® rRNA Depletion Kit
594 (Human/Mouse/Rat) as described in the manufacturer's instructions. Samples were then split,
595 half were untreated and half of which were bisulfite treated using an EZ RNA Methylation Kit
596 (Zymo Research) according to manufacturer's instructions. Samples were sent to Centre for
597 Genomic Research, Liverpool (United Kingdom) for library preparation.

598

599 **Library Preparation and Sequencing.** The NEBNext Ultra II Directional RNA Library Prep
600 Kit for Illumina was used to generate paired-end libraries at the University of Liverpool Centre
601 for Genomic Research. In short, Antarctic phosphatase (New England Biolabs) and
602 polynucleotide kinase (PNK) (New England Biolabs) were sequentially applied on the
603 samples. First, for each sample ~75–100 ng of the RNA was diluted in RNase-free water (16
604 µl total). Then 2 µl of 10× phosphatase buffer, 1 µl of Antarctic phosphatase and 1 µl of RNase
605 inhibitor were added and mix well, followed by 30 min incubation at 37 °C, then 5 min
606 incubation at 65 °C, and then kept on ice. Next, to each sample, 17 µl of nuclease-free water,
607 5 µl of 10× PNK buffer, 5 µl of 10 mM ATP, 1 µl of RNase inhibitor and 2 µl of PNK were added
608 and mixed well followed by incubation for 60 min at 37°C then kept on ice. The end-repaired
609 RNA was then cleaned up with an RNeasy MinElute cleanup kit (QIAGEN) according to the
610 manufacturer's instructions and eluted in 14 µl of RNase-free water. For 3'-adapter ligation, 2
611 µl of the v1.5 sRNA 3' adapter (Illumina) was mixed with the 14 µl eluate of the previous step
612 in a 200 µl nuclease-free, thin-walled PCR tube, followed by 2 min incubation at 70 °C on a
613 preheated thermal cycler then kept on ice. Next, 2.5 µl of 10x T4 RNA ligase 2 (truncated)
614 reaction buffer, plus 2 µl of 100 mM MgCl₂, 1 µl of RNase inhibitor and 3 µl of T4 RNA ligase
615 2 (truncated) (New England Biolabs) were added and mix well by pipetting, followed by 1 h
616 incubation at 22 °C on a preheated thermal cycler, then kept on ice. For 5'-adapter ligation,
617 for each sample 2 µl of 5' adapter (Illumina) (total 12 µl) was put in a new 200-µl nuclease-
618 free, thin-walled PCR tube and on a preheated thermal cycler, heat-denatured at 70 °C for 2
619 min, then kept on ice. Then 2 µl of this heat-denatured 5' adapter was added to each of the
620 3'-adapter ligation tubes (from previous step), plus 3 µl of 10 mM ATP, and 2 µl of T4 RNA
621 ligase (New England Biolabs) and mixed, followed by incubation for 1 h at 20 °C on a
622 preheated thermal cycler. For first-strand cDNA synthesis, 4 µl of the 3'-5'-adapter-ligated
623 RNA was mixed with barcoded RT primers (Illumina) and cDNA synthesis was performed

624 using SuperScript™ II Reverse Transcriptase (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's
625 instructions. For amplifying the cDNA library, 10 μ l of the cDNA was mixed with 10 μ l of 5x
626 Phusion high-fidelity buffer, 1 μ l of 10mM dNTP mix, 1 μ l of forward and 1 μ l of reverse 25 μ M
627 PCR primers (Illumina), and 0.5 μ l of Phusion high-fidelity DNA polymerase (New England
628 Biolabs), then reached to final reaction volume of 50 μ l by addition of 26.5 μ l of Nuclease-free
629 water. Next on a thermal cycler, the PCR mix was denatured at 98°C for 30 s, followed by 15
630 cycles of 98 °C (30 s), 60 °C (30 s), 72 °C (15 s), and a final incubation at 72 °C for 10 min,
631 then kept at 4 °C. For library clean up, Agencourt Ampure XP beads (Beckman Coulter) were
632 applied on the amplified libraries according to the manufacturer's instructions. The resulting
633 libraries were sequenced in a paired-end format on a NovaSeq 6000 (Illumina).

634

635 **Bioinformatics Methods.** BS and NBS reads were subjected to adaptor trimming (Illumina
636 paired-end sequencing adapters) using Cutadapt v1.2.1⁵² with parameter O = 3, and low-
637 quality reads removal using Sickle v1.2⁵³ with parameters (minimum window quality score >
638 20 and read length > 15 bp). Quality filtered and adapter trimmed reads were aligned to the
639 NC_009333.1 (NCBI) assembly of the Human herpesvirus 8 strain GK18 genome using BWA-
640 Meth⁵⁴ with default parameters. RNA modifications (Ψ) were identified on the alignment files
641 using RBSSeqTools²³ with the following parameters (Bisulfite reads (BS): \geq 5 deletions, \geq
642 0.02 fraction deletion and \geq 10 coverage). We merged adjacent positions to form deletion
643 groups, which were pruned to remove positions with less than half the maximum observed
644 fraction deletion in the group. Raw data files available at NCBI GEO (GSE217688).

645

646 **Mapping RBS-Seq-identified PSU sites onto KSHV annotated features.** KSHV 2.0
647 annotation¹⁸ was merged to NC_009333.1 reference genome through BlastN⁵⁵ (-FF -W7 -
648 v1 -b1) of all novel features from the former against the latter whole genome. An *ad hoc*
649 PERL script was used to convert Blast tabular format to gff, allowing the integration of both
650 annotations. Gff was converted to bed6 through regular Unix "cut" commands, setting
651 "feature_type" from gff (3rd column) as "feature_name" for bed6 (4th column). Bed files
652 containing BS-Seq-identified PSU sites from the three conditions under investigation (0h, 8h,
653 and 20h) were compared against the recently created NC_009333.1 + KSHV 2.0 bed6
654 through a "bedtools intersect -loj" execution⁵⁶.

655

656 **PSU motif analysis.** STREME tool from the MEME suite⁵⁷ (--dna --minw 3 --maxw 10 --
657 thresh 0.01) was employed for screening short motifs on the KSHV genome within a 15 nt-
658 long PSU site surrounding area (7 nt upstream - PSU site - 7 nt downstream). PSU sites'

659 bed files (described above) were combined into a single non-redundant tabular format used
660 as input for an *ad hoc* PERL script aimed at generating the 15 nt-long sequences (with a
661 central PSU site) fasta file used as input for STREME. PSU sites mapped on the minus
662 strand of the genome had their 15 nt-long sequences reversed-complemented. A KSHV
663 whole genome-derived background control file for STREME was created with pyfasta:
664 pyfasta split -n 1 -o 7 -k 15 NC_009333.1.fasta.

665

666 **Protein differential enrichment.** Proteomics TMT quantification was assessed for
667 differential enrichment with an adapted eBayes function (eb.fit) from the Limma Bioconductor
668 package^{58, 59} combining both Pus1 and Pus7 experiments against their respective controls.
669 EnhancedVolcano was employed for an overall DE visualisation through volcano plots.

670 Additionally, our TMT quantification results were compared against a publicly available
671 proteomics dataset (Data are available via ProteomeXchange with identifier PXD037389⁵¹),
672 which made use of SILAC technology for quantifying differentially expressed cellular and
673 KSHV proteins during lytic reactivation. Normalised protein abundance values from both
674 independent experiments were log-scaled and samples were assessed via Spearman
675 Correlation and Hierarchical Clustering analyses. Heat map was plot using the pheatmap R
676 package. All R tools described in this section were run under the R v4.1.0 environment.

677 **Statistical analysis.** Except where otherwise stated, graphical data shown represent mean
678 plus/minus standard error of mean or standard deviation (SD) using at least 3 independent
679 experiments. Differences between means were analysed by Students t-test or one-way
680 ANOVA as described in the figure legends. Statistics were considered significant at $p < 0.05$
681 *, $p < 0.01$ **, $p < 0.001$ ***, $p < 0.0001$ **** between groups.

682 **Data availability.** Source data for RBS-Seq and TMT-quantitative mass spectrometry have
683 been deposited to NCBI GEO and PRIDE databases.

684

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886

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895 **Author Contributions**

896 AW conceived the study and acquired project funding. TJM and KLH performed the
897 experiments and TJM, KLH and AW analysed the resulting data. EJRV and CAA analysed
898 transcriptomics and proteomics datasets. The manuscript draft was written by TJM and AW.
899 All authors reviewed and edited the final version.

900 **Competing interests**

901 The authors declare no competing financial or non-financial interests.

902 **Figure Legends**

903 **Figure 1.** PUS1 and PUS7 are essential for KSHV viral replication and PUS7 shows distinct
904 relocalisation upon viral reactivation. TReX BCBL1-Rta cells were reactivated using
905 doxycycline and fixed at 24 hours post activation. Untreated TReX BCBL1-Rta cells were used
906 as a control. Cells were stained using anti-PUS1 (a) or anti-PUS7 (b) to stain for PUS
907 localisation and anti-ORF57 antibodies to identify replication centres. Cross section
908 fluorescent intensity graph of representative cell identified by a white arrow. Representative
909 image of n = 3 shown.

910 **Figure 2.** Early and late viral RNA and protein expression of reactivated KSHV are disrupted
911 in PUS1ko or PUS7ko cells. Early and late viral protein expression of reactivated KSHV in
912 PUS1ko (a) or PUS7ko cells (b). Expression of viral early protein ORF57, late protein ORF65
913 and housekeeping protein GAPDH in TReX BCBL1-Rta cells as determined by Western blot
914 using anti-PUS1 or anti-PUS7, ORF57, ORF65 and GAPDH specific antibodies.
915 Representative image of three biological repeats shown. Gene expression of immediate-early
916 gene non-coding RNA PAN (C), early gene ORF57 (D) and late gene ORF65 (E) in TReX
917 BCBL1-Rta PUS1ko or PUS7ko cells after 24 hours lytic reactivation. Viral RNA levels
918 determined via qRT-PCR and normalised to GAPDH. Values were normalised to scrambled
919 control KSHV infection Error bars represent SD, n = 4 for all experiments, p ≤ 0.05 *, p ≤ 0.01
920 **, p ≤ 0.0001 **** using a two tailed Students unpaired t test. Reduced production of infective
921 of KSHV virions in PUS1ko (F) or PUS7ko (G) cells. Successful infection, and replication of
922 KSHV virions was determined by reinfection of naïve HEK-293Ts. After 72 hours of
923 doxycycline induction in TReX BCBL1-Rta cells, supernatant was used to infect HEK-293Ts,
924 which were subsequently harvested at 48 hours post infection. Viral mRNA levels were
925 determined via qRT-PCR of the ORF57 gene and normalised to GAPDH. Values were
926 normalised to scrambled control KSHV infection. Error bars represent SD, n = ≥ 3 for all
927 experiments, p ≤ 0.0001 **** using a two tailed Students unpaired t-test.

928 **Figure 3.** PUS1 and PUS7 enzymes show distinct changes in protein interaction partners
929 upon KSHV lytic reactivation. STRING analysis of PUS1 upregulated (a) and PUS7
930 downregulated (b) interaction partners. Reactivated TReX BCBL1-RTA cells after 24 hours
931 were harvested and an immunoprecipitation performed using anti-PUS1 or anti-PUS7
932 antibodies. Samples were then processed using tandem-mass tag proteomics. STRING
933 analysis displays upregulation of cellular protein interactions with PUS1 and downregulation
934 of interactions with PUS7. Heat map hierarchical clustering (HC) analysis between
935 differentially expressed proteins during KSHV reactivation and PUS1/PUS7
936 immunoprecipitation interaction partners (d). HC was performed on both rows (proteins) and
937 columns (samples), and the colour shading scale corresponds to Z-Scores with red colour
938 indicating higher interaction and blue colour indicating lower interaction. Spearman correlation
939 coefficient (rho) was also calculated on all possible pairwise comparisons of TReX BCBL1-
940 RTA PUS1 and PUS7 immunoprecipitation data with reactivated lytic TReX BCBL1-RTA
941 whole cell SILAC proteomics data (rho < 0.2, not shown). Schematic of PUS7 interaction
942 hypothesis (d). PUS7s relocation to replication complexes brings PUS7 in close proximity
943 to viral proteins, cellular factors and the PAN RNA scaffold, along with any transcribing viral
944 RNAs while reducing latent cellular interactions.

945 **Figure 4.** The KSHV transcriptome is heavily φ modified. RBS-seq IGV KSHV
946 epitranscriptome map (a). Raw sequencing reads were processed as described in methods.
947 RBS-Seq Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV) plot in TREx BCBL1-Rta cells at 0, 8 and 20 hr
948 post reactivation. Log10 bisulfite deletions (BS Del) and bisulfite depth (BS Dep) aligned
949 across the KSHV epitranscriptome are shown. RBS-Seq CIRCOS analysis of individual φ sites
950 mapped to KSHV transcriptome (b). Plot of φ sites identified by RBS-Seq analysis at 8 hours
951 unreactivated (red), post reactivation (blue), 20 hours unreactivated (brown) and post
952 reactivation (orange). Coverage tracks scaled to log10. Individual repeats shown. Venn
953 diagram comparison of related φ sites during lytic reactivation (c). Comparison of overlapping
954 φ sites at 0, 8 and 20 hr post reactivation. Distribution of φ sites across topological regions of
955 viral RNA (d). Genome features include CDS, UTR, miscellaneous RNA, regulatory RNA and
956 repeat regions. STREME analysis of φ motif sequences (e). Analysis of sequence motifs of
957 within 15 nt surrounding φ site separated by genomic features (CDS and intergenic) or
958 considering all φ sites at once (All PSU). Motif search of PUS7 binding motif (f). Identification
959 of UGUAR PUS7 binding motif across newly identified φ sites within KSHV transcriptome.

960 **Figure 5.** KSHV PAN RNA is pseudouridylated in close proximity to known interaction motifs.
961 RIP analysis of φ modified KSHV genes (a). RIP of TREx BCBL1-Rta cells at 24 hours post
962 reactivation using anti- φ antibody. Followed by qPCR of PAN and ORF4 viral RNAs, with
963 endogenous 28S positive control and negative control MBP transcripts (n = 3). RBS-Seq
964 identified KSHV non-coding RNA PAN φ sites (b). Adapted from Sztuba-Solinska et al 2017
965 PAN SHAPE analysis, RBS-Seq identified φ sites shown. CMC-ligation assisted PCR (CLAP)
966 schematic (c). Purified RNA from reactivated TREx BCBL1-Rta cells is treated with +/- CMC
967 followed by ligation of an RNA-5 blocker molecule (signified by a black line) to the 3' end of
968 the fragmented RNA preventing unwanted splint ligation binding. RNA is then reverse
969 transcribed, RNase H treated and both adaptor and splint ligated to the resulting cDNA. This
970 cDNA is then used as a template for a PCR reaction allowing amplification of both U and φ
971 modified fragments before analysis on a polyacrylamide gel. PAN φ sites confirmed via CMT-
972 RT and ligation assisted PCR analysis (CLAP) (d). CLAP confirming φ site 334 on PAN RNA
973 and site 1640 on ORF4. Ribosomal RNA 28s site 3749 and site 96 used as a positive control
974 and negative control respectively. TREx BCBL1-Rta, PUS1ko or PUS7ko cells were induced
975 for 24 hours before subsequently harvested. RNA was extracted and CLAP performed.
976 Representative image used of 3 repeats.

977 **Figure 6.** PUS1 and PUS7 knockouts affect PAN poly(A) tail length and stability. The stability
978 of PAN RNA during KSHV lytic reactivation was determined by assessing mRNA decay
979 through Actinomycin D (AcD) treatment of TREx- BCBL1-Rta cells (a). Cells were reactivated
980 using doxycycline 24 hours prior to the addition of 2.5 μ g / ml AcD. Cells were then collected

981 at 0, 4 and 8 hours post transcription inhibition (Post-TI) by AcD treatment and total RNA was
982 extracted followed by qRT-PCR. Values were first normalised to GAPDH before normalising
983 to 0 hour time point. An exponential decay model of non-linear regression was performed and
984 plotted. Error bars represent SD, n = 4 for all experiments. poly(A) tail length was assessed
985 through G/I extension followed by cDNA synthesis and PCR (b). TREx- BCBL1-Rta cells were
986 reactivated using doxycycline for 24 hours before harvesting, followed by G/I extension and
987 cDNA synthesis. PCR products of PAN gene specific PCR amplification and PAN poly(A) tail
988 PCR amplification of scrambled (Scr) PUS1 or PUS7 knockout cells were analysed by
989 acrylamide gel electrophoresis using a Li-COR Odyssey SA imager. Representative images
990 of n = 4 shown. Densitometry analysis of long poly(A) and short poly(A) acrylamide gels (c).
991 Gene specific and poly(A) amplification of GAPDH and corresponding densitometry (d).
992 Values were normalised to densitometry of gene specific PCR product before normalisation
993 to Scr. Error bars represent SD, n = 4 for all experiments. p ≤ 0.05 *, p ≤ 0.01 ** using a two
994 tailed Students unpaired t-test.

995 **Figure 7.** Ψ site 334 is important for ORF57 enhancement of PAN expression and directly
996 affects PAN stability. Knockout of PUS1 and PUS7 in HEK-293T cells as confirmed via
997 western blotting (a). Overexpression of PAN and ORF57 in PUS1ko and PUS7ko HEK-293T
998 cells (b). HEK-293T cells were transfected with pCMV-PAN alone or pCMV-PAN with pCMV-
999 ORF57-eGFP before harvesting after 48 hours. Samples were first normalised to GAPDH
1000 before normalising to respective PAN only sample. RIP analysis of ORF57-eGFP in HEK-
1001 293T cells. HEK-293T cells were transfected with pCMV-PAN and pCMV-ORF57-eGFP and
1002 an RIP was performed at 24 hours post transfection using GFP-TRAP beads. Followed by
1003 qPCR of PAN (c) or pre-BTG1 (d) genes and GAPDH (n ≥ 3). RIPs are expressed as fold
1004 change over GAPDH following normalisation to scrambled control. Overexpression of PAN
1005 pseudouridine mutants co-transfected with ORF57-eGFP (e). HEK-293T cells were
1006 transfected with pCMV-PAN (or mutant pCMV-PAN) or both pCMV-PAN (or mutant pCMV-
1007 PAN) and pCMV-ORF57-eGFP before harvesting after 48 hours. Samples were RNA
1008 extracted and analysed via qRT-PCR. Samples were first normalised to GAPDH before
1009 normalising to respective PAN only samples and WT PAN. Error bars represent SE, n = 4 for
1010 all experiments, p ≤ 0.05 *, p ≤ 0.01 ** using a one way ANOVA with Dunnett post-test. RNA
1011 stability of WT PAN and Δ3 Ψ PAN mutants (f) or 334, 582 and 763 mutants (g) co-transfected
1012 with ORF57-eGFP. The stability of PAN RNA or Ψ negative mutant transcripts were determined
1013 by assessing mRNA decay through AcD treatment of transfected HEK-293T cells. Cells were
1014 transfected 24 hours prior to the addition of 10 μ g/ml AcD. Cells were then collected at 0, 4
1015 and 8 hours post transcription inhibition (Post-TI) by AcD treatment and total RNA was

1016 extracted followed by qRT-PCR. Error bars represent SE, $n = \geq 5$ for all experiments, $p \leq 0.05$
1017 *, $p \leq 0.01$ ** using a two tailed Students unpaired t-test.

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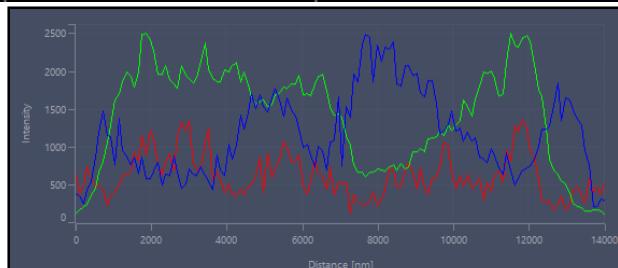
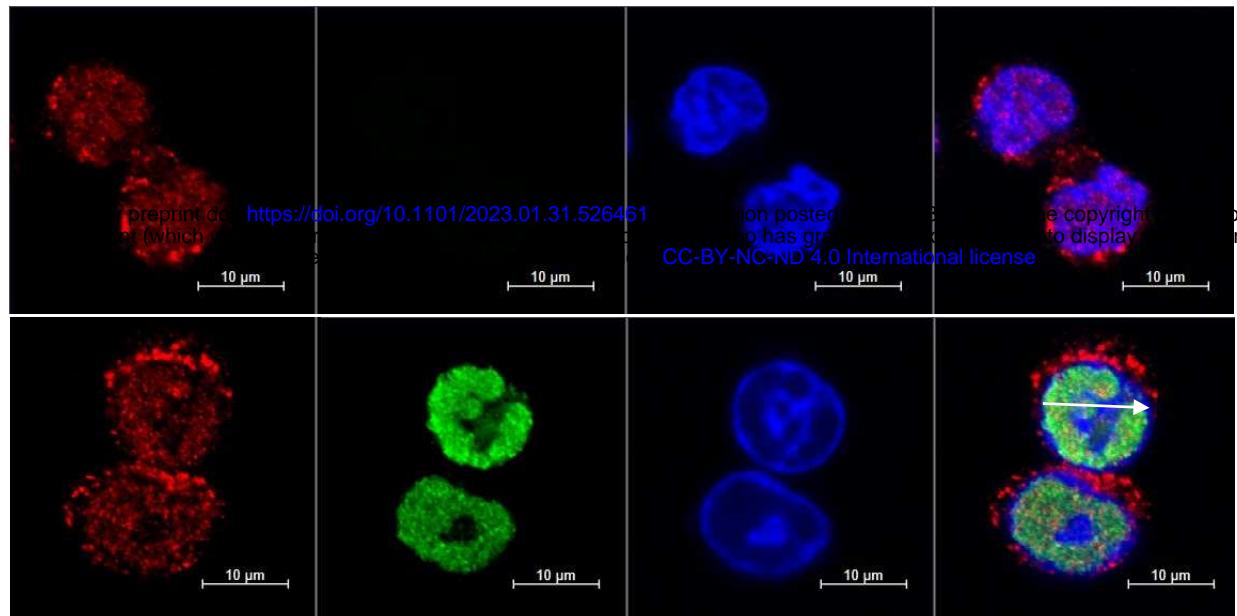
PUS1

ORF57

DAPI

Merge

Latent

**b**

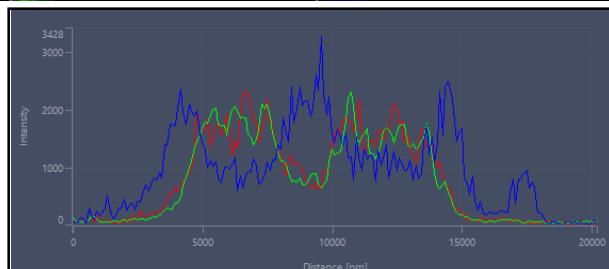
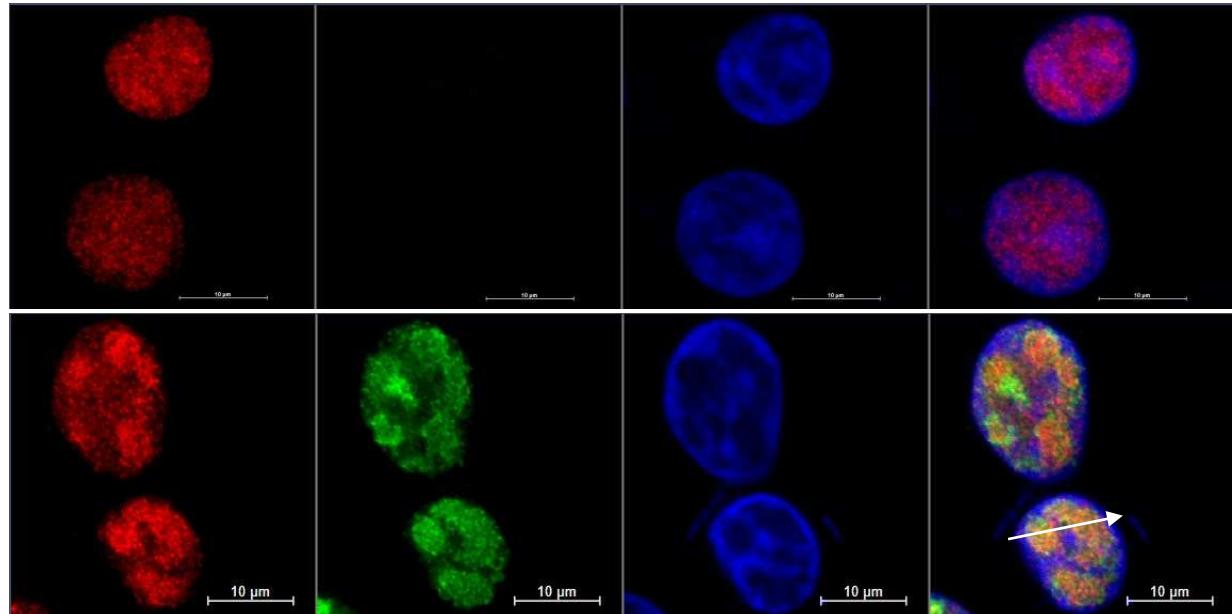
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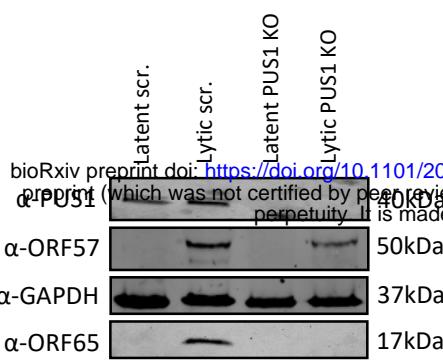
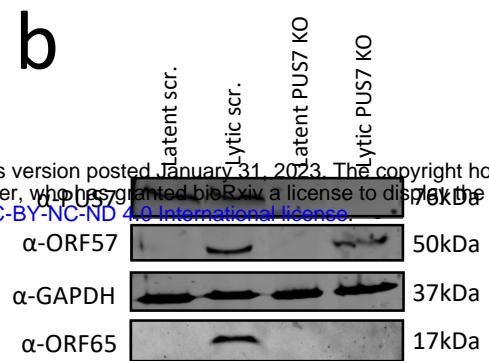
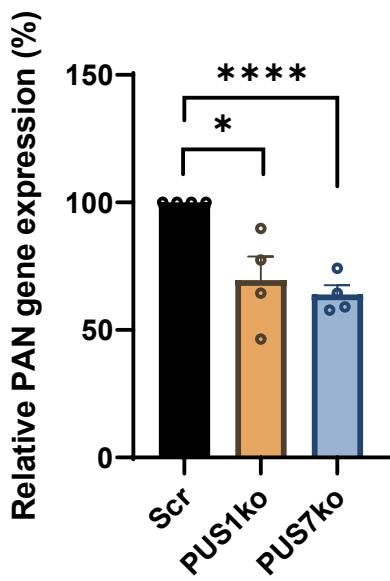
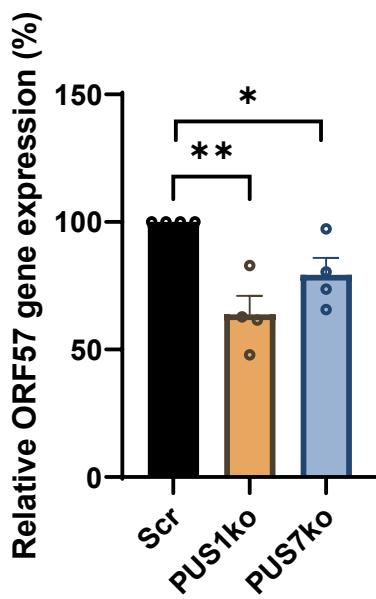
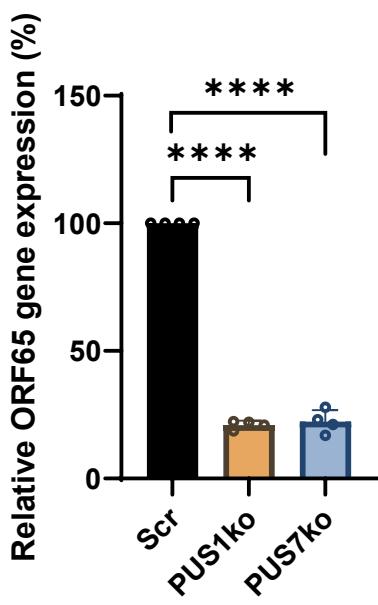
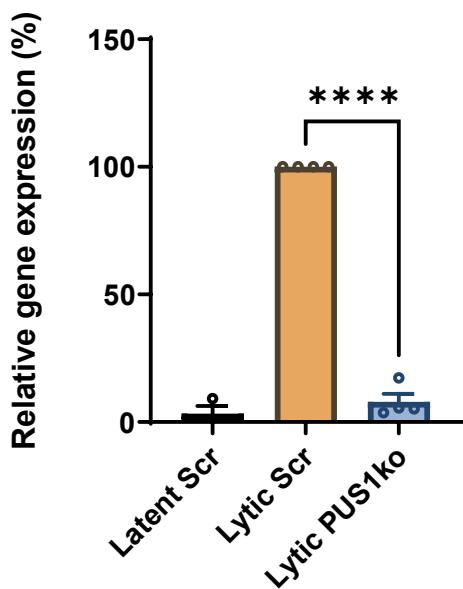
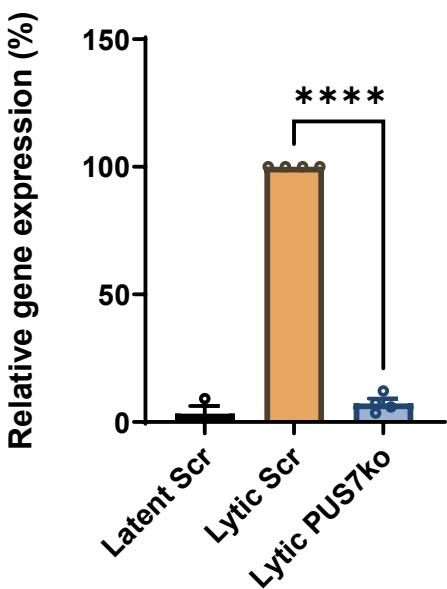
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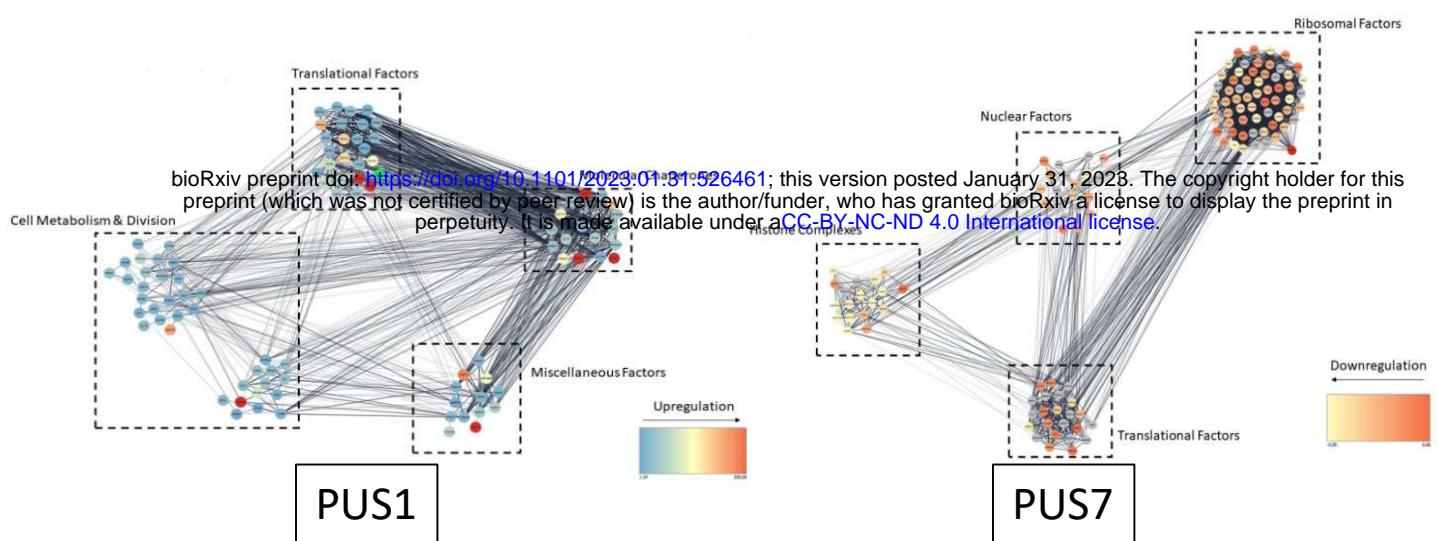
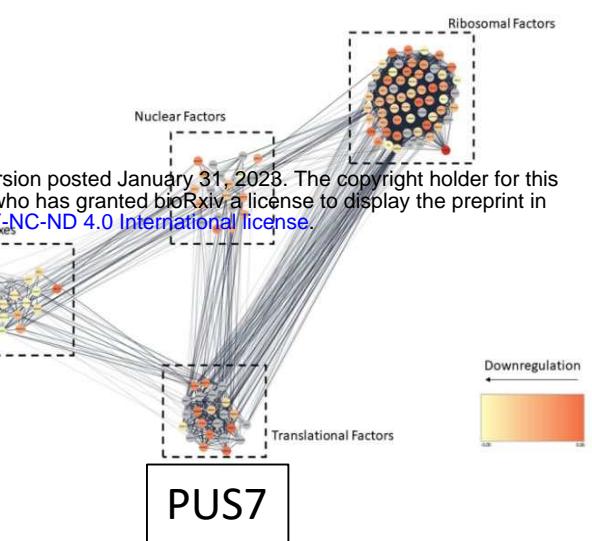
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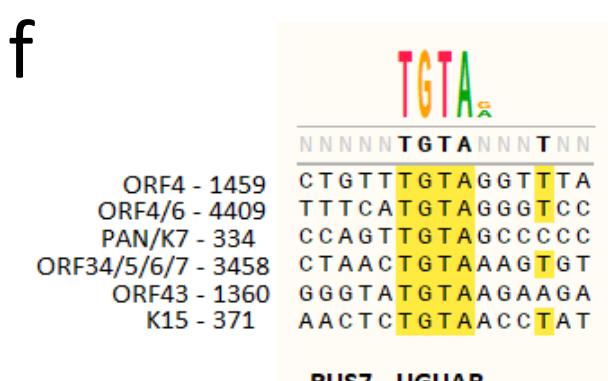
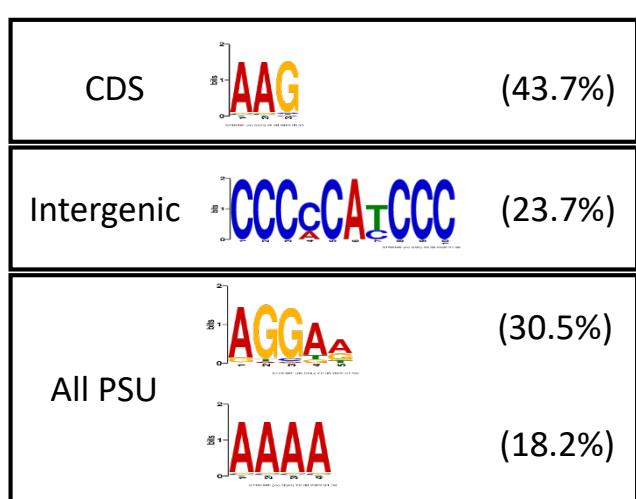
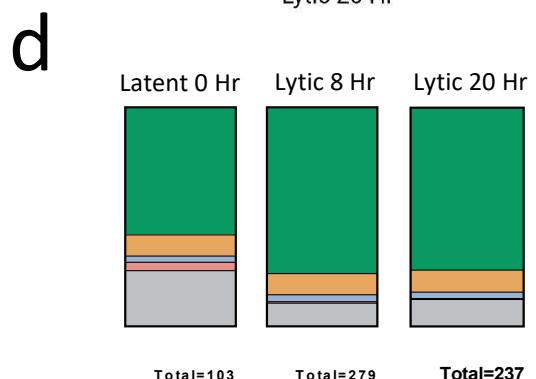
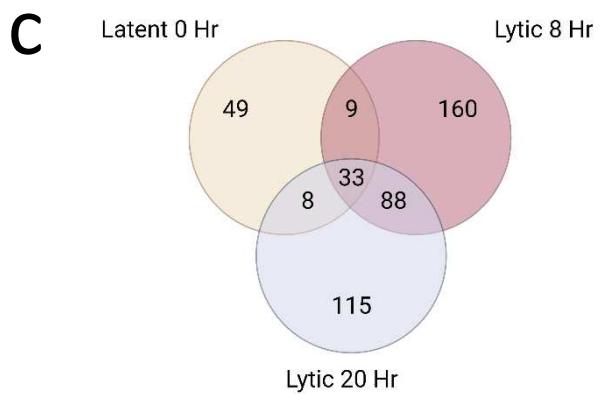
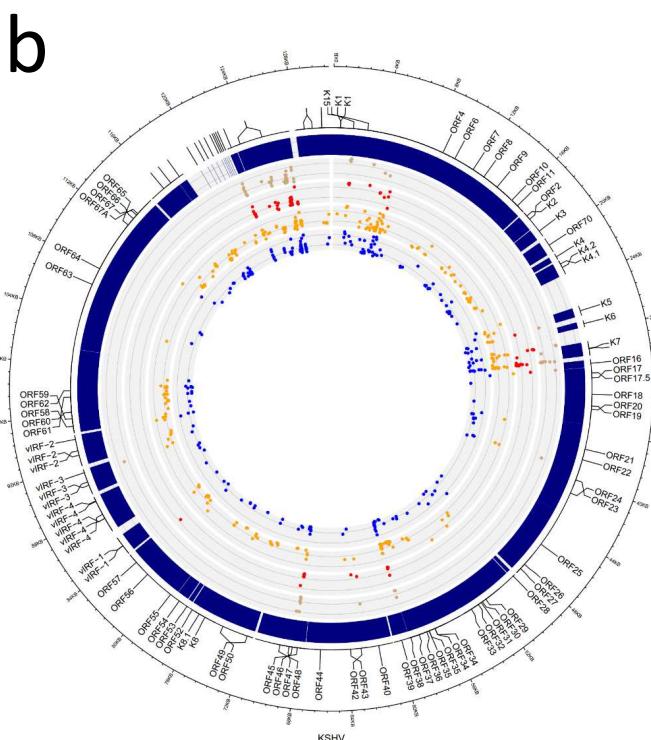
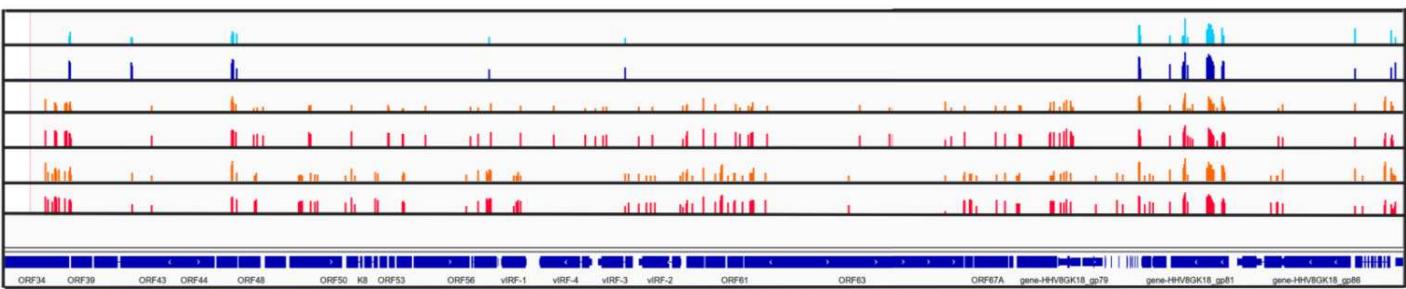
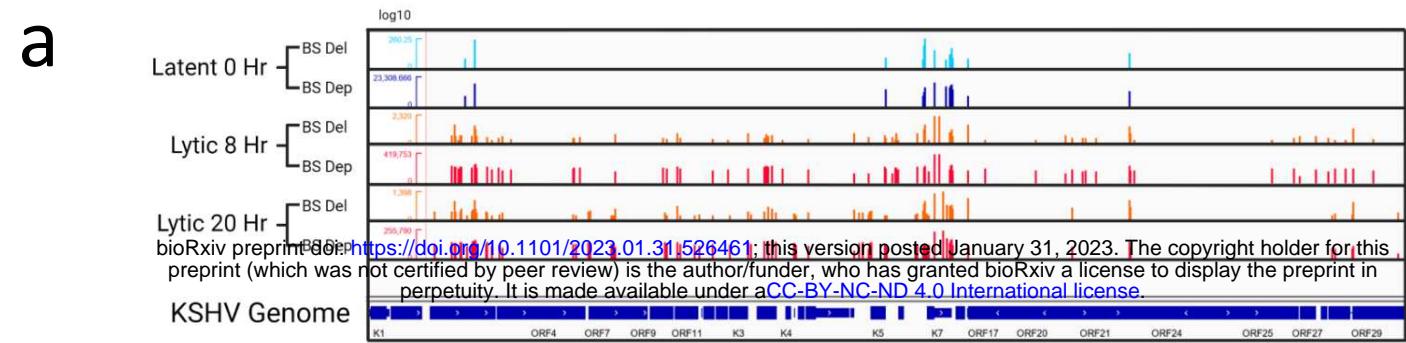


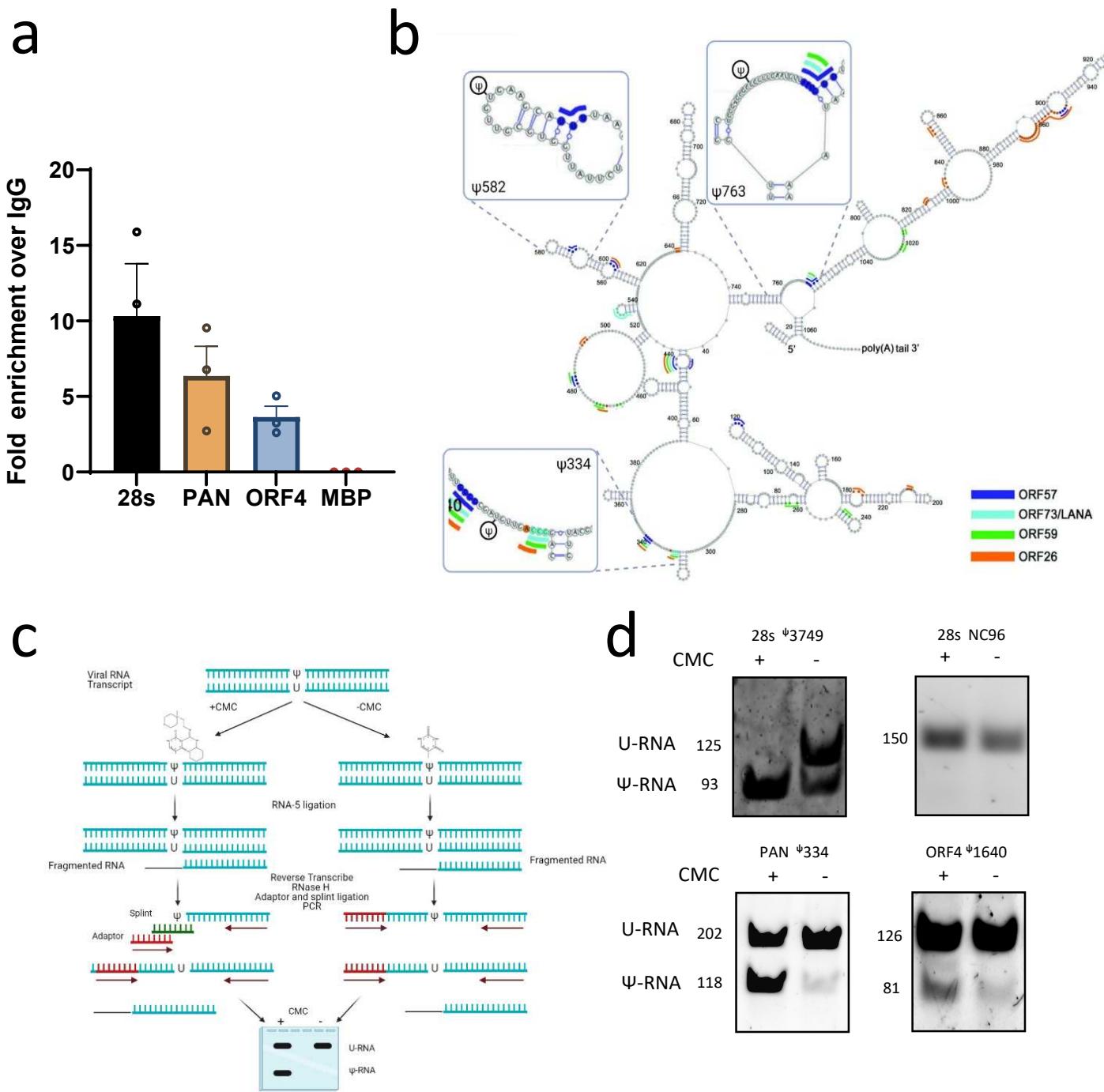
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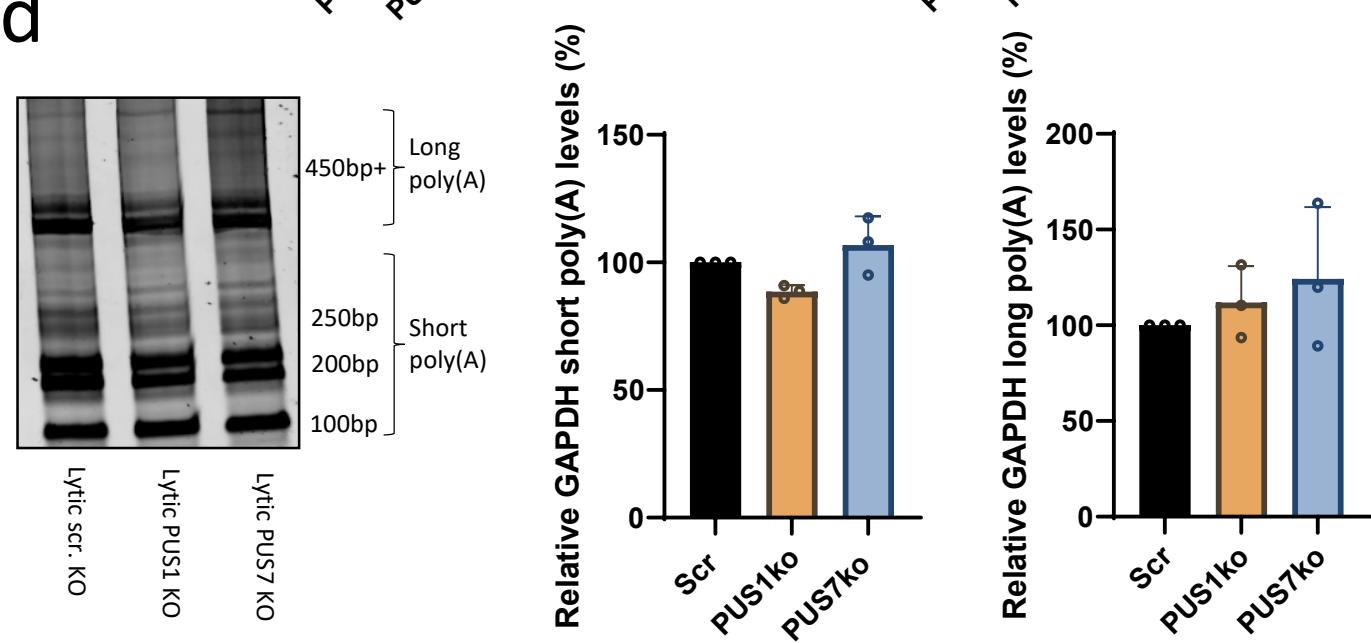
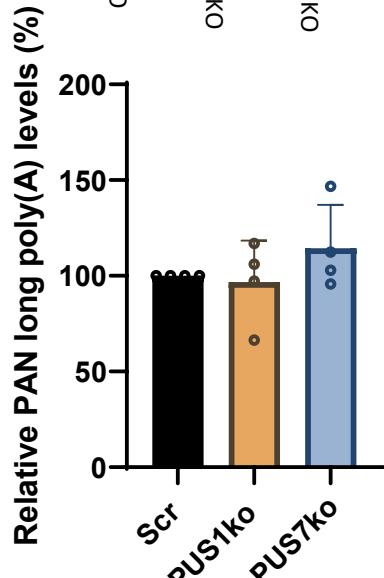
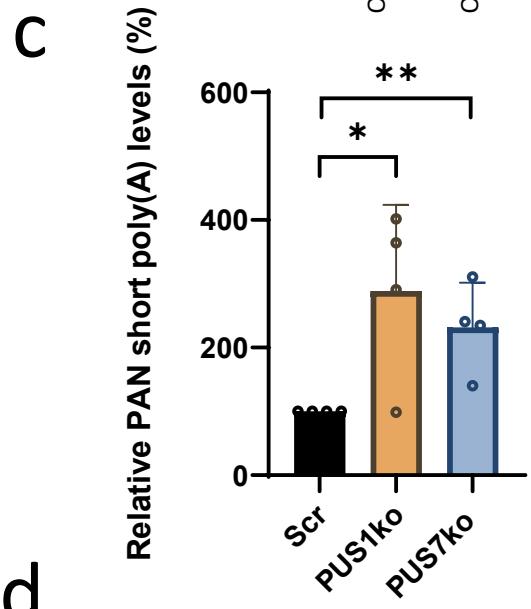
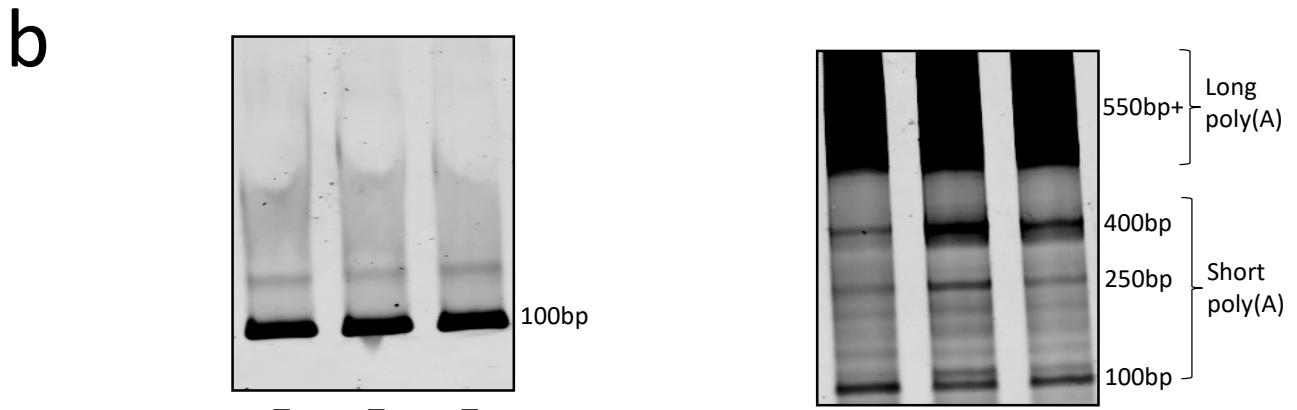
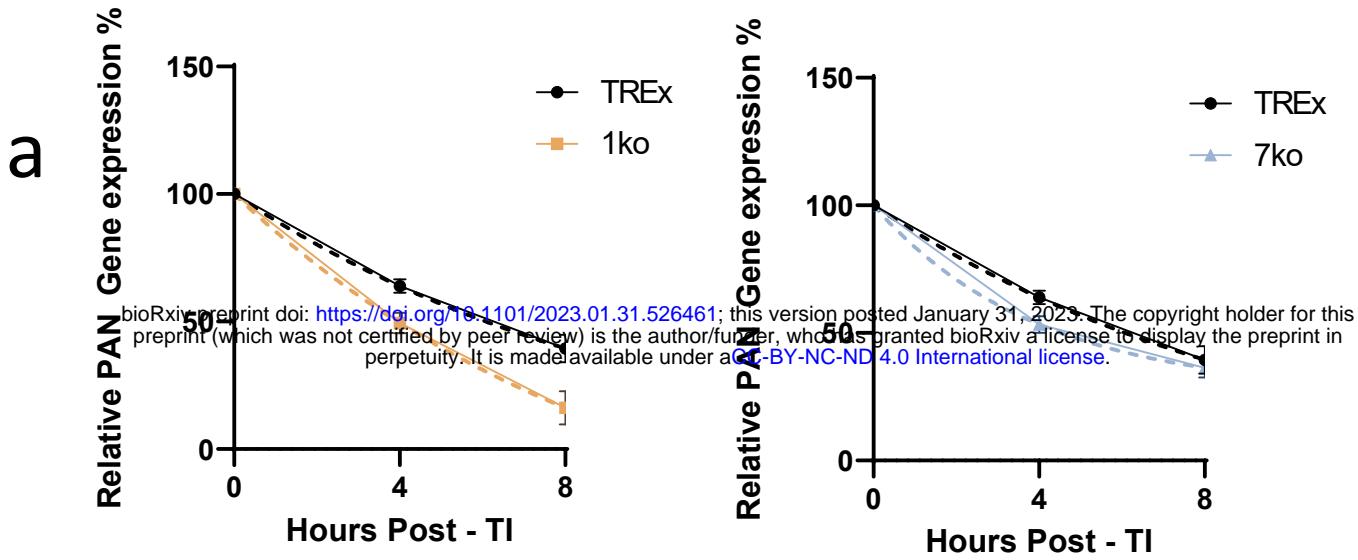
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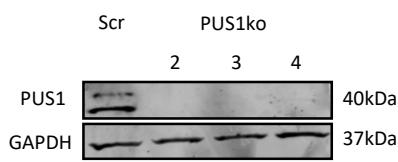
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K5	RPA2	ORF6	HSPE1PE
K8	RPA3	ORF25	EEF1B2
ORF6	RIF1PE	ORF52	SOD1PE
ORF11		ORF59	
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ORF57			
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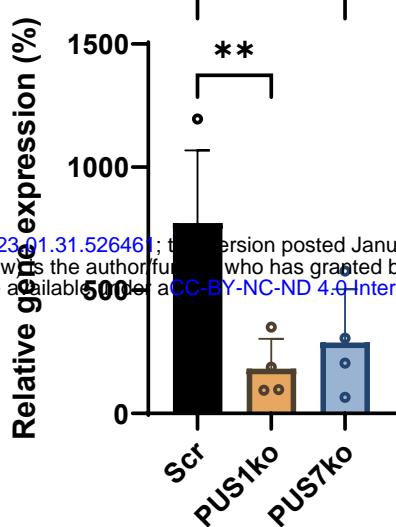
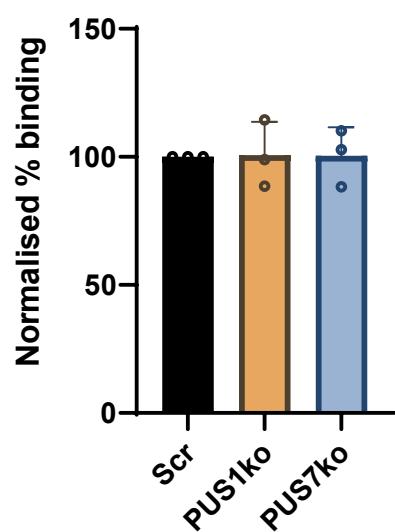
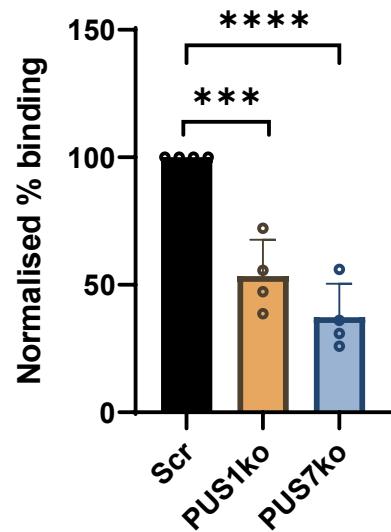
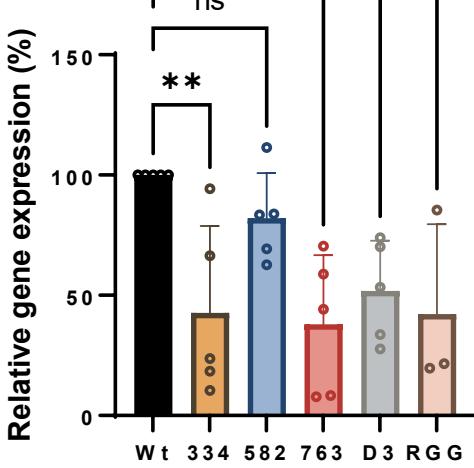
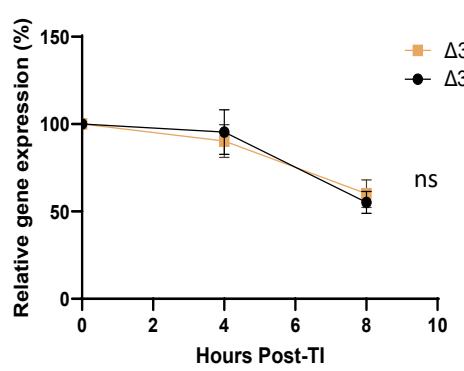
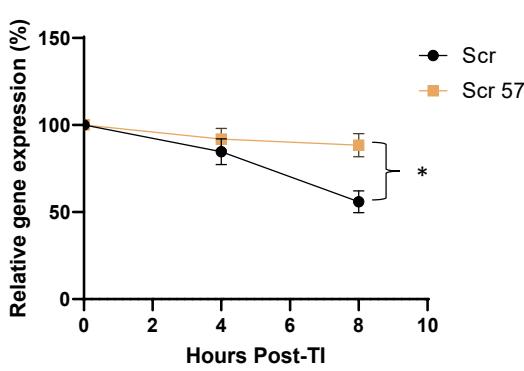






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